



Introduction to DSLs in Kotlin

Victor Kropp

@kropp

What is DSL?

- A **domain-specific language (DSL)** is a computer language specialized to a particular application domain
- Simpler DSLs, particularly ones used by a single application, are sometimes informally called **mini-languages**

External DSLs

SQL

```
INSERT INTO Users (FirstName, LastName, Company)
    VALUES ("Victor", "Kropp", "JetBrains")
```

RegExp

```
\s*([^\s:]+)\s*[\s^a-z]:(.*)\s*$
```

Internal DSLs

Examples

kotlinx.html

```
createHTML().html {  
    body {  
        div {  
            a("http://kotlinlang.org") {  
                target = ATarget.blank  
                +"Main site"  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

kotlinx.html

```
<html>
  <body>
    <div><a href="http://kotlinlang.org"
target="_blank">Main site</a></div>
  </body>
</html>
```

Anko

```
verticalLayout {  
    val name = editText()  
    button("Say Hello") {  
        onClick { toast("Hello, #{name.text}!") }  
    }  
}
```

Why DSL?

```
verticalLayout {  
    for (i in 1..10) {  
        button("Say Hello $i")  
    }  
}
```


Why DSL?

```
verticalLayout {  
    generateButtons(10)  
}
```

```
fun VerticalLayout.generateButtons(count: Int) {  
    for (i in 1..count) {  
        button("Say Hello $i")  
    }  
}
```

Building blocks

Extension functions

```
fun Int.days(): Period = ...
```

```
fun Period.ago(): Date = ...
```

```
3.days().ago()
```

```
2.months().later()
```

Extension properties

```
val Int.days: Period
```

```
    get() = ...
```

```
val Period.ago: Date
```

```
    get() = ...
```

```
3.days.ago
```

```
2.months.later
```

Lambda as last parameter

```
fun f(lambda: () -> Unit) {  
    ...  
}
```

```
f() { doSomething() }
```

Lambda with receiver

```
fun f(lambda: StringBuilder.() -> Unit) {  
    ...  
}  
f { append("Kotlin") }
```

Our own mini DSL

```
open class Tag(val name: String) {  
    val children = mutableListOf<Tag>()  
    override fun toString() =  
        "<$name>${children.joinToString("")}</$name>"  
}
```

```
class Html : Tag("html")
```

```
class Body : Tag("body")
```

```
class P : Tag("p")
```

Our own mini DSL

```
fun html(builder: Html.() -> Unit) =  
    Html().apply(builder).toString()
```

```
fun Html.body(builder: Body.() -> Unit) =  
    children.add(Body().apply(builder))
```

```
fun Body.p(builder: P.() -> Unit = {}) =  
    children.add(P().apply(builder))
```


Our own mini DSL

```
html {  
    body {  
        p()  
    }  
}
```

```
<html><body><p></p></body></html>
```

A problem

```
html {  
    body {  
        p()  
        body {} // shouldn't be allowed here  
    }  
}
```

@DslMarker annotation

```
@DslMarker
```

```
annotation class HtmlTag
```

```
@HtmlTag
```

```
open class Tag(val name: String) {
```

```
    ...
```

```
}
```

Context checking

```
html {  
    body {  
        p()  
        body {}  
    }  
}
```

fun Html.body() can't be called here by implicit receiver

Operator overloading

```
html {  
    body {  
        p {  
            +"Hello Kotlin!"  
        }  
    }  
}
```

```
<html><body><p>Hello Kotlin!</p></body></html>
```

Operator overloading

```
class P : Tag("p") {  
    private var text = ""  
    override fun toString() = "<p>$text</p>"  
    operator fun String.unaryPlus() { text = this }  
}
```

Infix functions

```
object Users : Table() {  
    val name = varchar("name")  
    val company = varchar("company", length = 50)  
}
```

```
Users.select { Users.company eq "JetBrains" }
```

Infix functions

```
inline fun FieldSet.select(where:  
    SqlExpressionBuilder.() -> Op<Boolean>) : Query = ...
```

```
infix fun<T> ExpressionWithColumnType<T>.eq(t: T) :  
    Op<Boolean> = ...
```

```
Users.select { Users.company.eq("JetBrains") }
```


invoke() convention

```
dependencies.compile("org.jetbrains.kotlin:kotlinx-html-jvm:0.6.4")
```

```
dependencies {  
    compile("org.jetbrains.kotlin:kotlinx-html-jvm:0.6.4")  
}
```

invoke() convention

```
fun DependencyObj.invoke(builder: DependencyObj.() -> Unit)  
    = this.apply(builder)
```

Links

kotlinx.html

<https://github.com/Kotlin/kotlinx.html>

Anko

<https://github.com/Kotlin/anko>

Exposed

<https://github.com/JetBrains/Exposed>

Kotlin Community

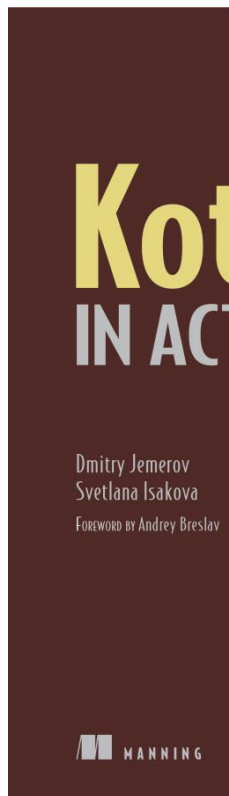


<https://kotlinlang.slack.com/>

Get invite at

<http://slack.kotlinlang.org/>

Kotlin in Action





Kotlin Conf

kotlinconf.com

2-3 NOV. 2017
SAN FRANCISCO,
PIER 27

TWO DAYS OF CONTENT
FROM KOTLIN CREATORS
AND COMMUNITY ENTHUSIASTS



AN OFFICIAL EVENT BY JETBRAINS

Thank you!

Victor Kropp

@kropp

victor.kropp.name

Questions?

Victor Kropp

@kropp

victor.kropp.name