Code Review

Best Practices, Tips or How To Not Drive Your Colleagues Into Depression With Your Comments

German Urikh, May 2024

What is code review?

What is code review?

- Review of code written by other colleagues!

```
50        testImplementation("org.springframework.security:spring-security-test")
51        testImplementation("org.springframework.kafka:spring-kafka-test")
52        implementation("com.google.protobuf:protobuf-java:3.6.1")
53   +    detekt("io.gitlab.arturbosch.detekt:detekt-cli:1.19.0-RC1")
54   +    detekt("org.jetbrains.kotlin:kotlin-compiler-embeddable:1.6.0-RC")
```
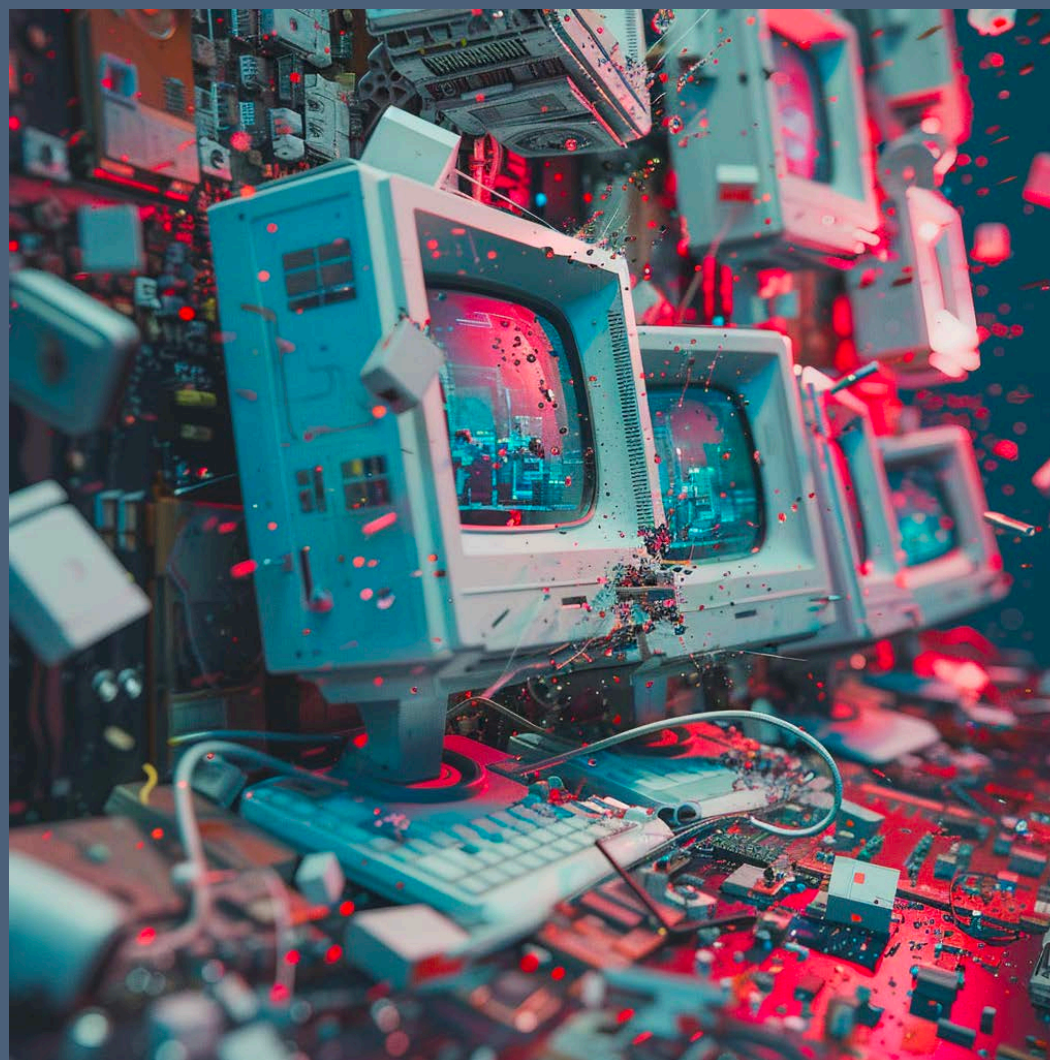
hermanurikh now

Why don't we extract version to properties file?

☺

Why do we need it?

Why do we need it?

- More eyes on code = more chances to catch potential bugs / privacy and security issues

- Not catching those on time may result in potential production downtime, regulator problems or ruined customer trust

Why do we need it?

- Code review may mean sharing best practices within project or even company

- Such knowledge sharing helps developers know the code styles and even progress professionally

Why do we need it?

- Code review may stop the unintended workflows

- It can act as a security layer protecting production from unverified changes

Best practices

Best practices

- For a detailed review, check out the author's branch on your local machine and examine each modified file individually.

- Your code editor can help identify syntax errors, and file connections are easier to comprehend when viewed locally.

Best practices

- Sometimes, it makes sense to review just syntax and pick obvious bugs without getting into the whole business logic.

- Do a deep review if the author specifically asks for it, just make sure the author is aware you are reviewing syntax only.

Best practices

- Very important: adapt your style!

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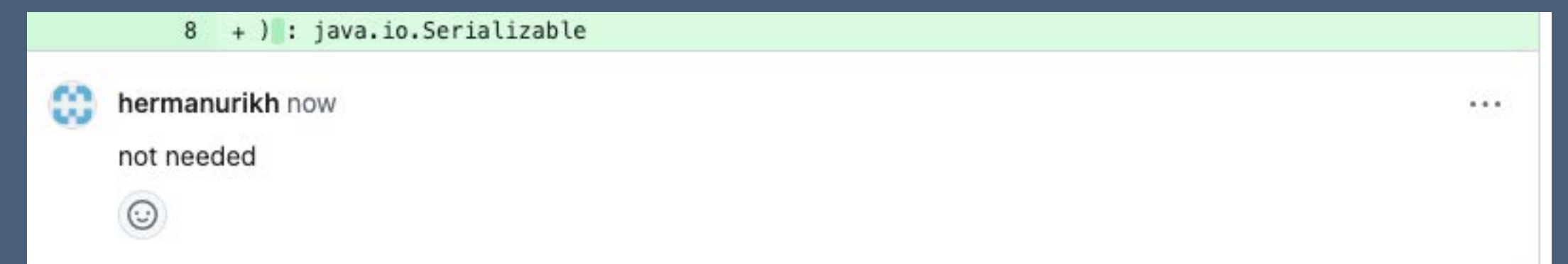
More junior / recent / sensitive person

Best practices

- Very important: adapt your style!

More junior / recent / sensitive person

More senior / experienced / bulletproof person

Best practices

- Beware of emotional damage

  - Too many comments can be overwhelming even for seasoned devs (I have 10+ years of experience and still can get my ego hurt)

  - Try keeping only most significant ones and moving the rest offline
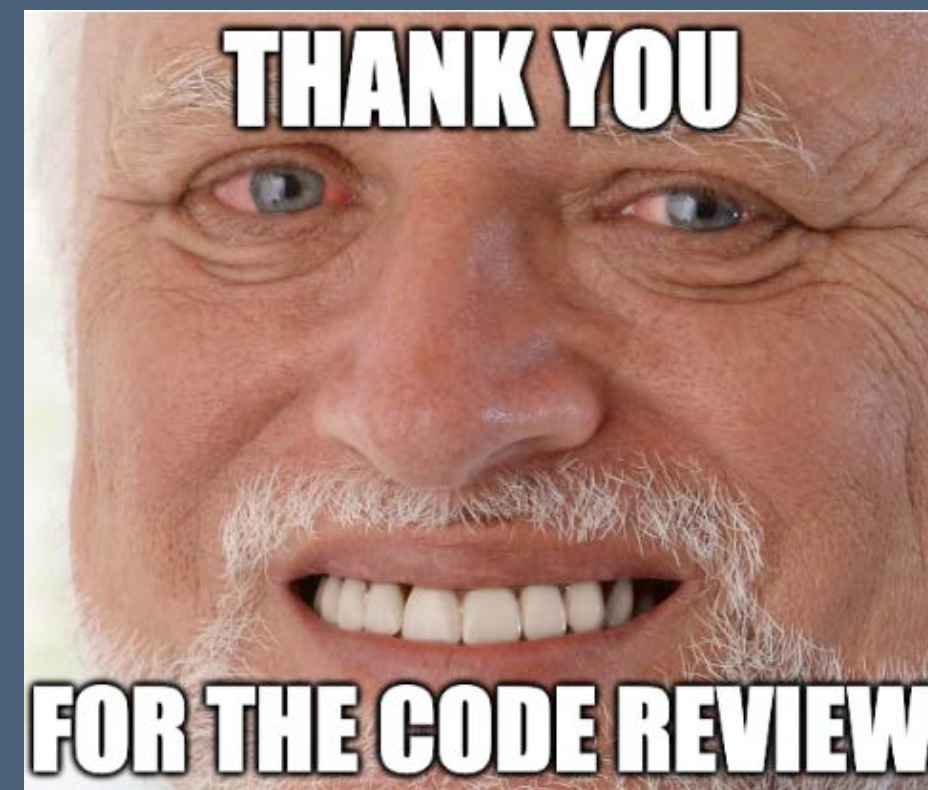
Best practices

- Encourage when you like something

Best practices

- Don't argue back and forth in comments

  - People tend to get protective and get the feeling of being publicly attacked

  - Just move the conversation offline / to private chat
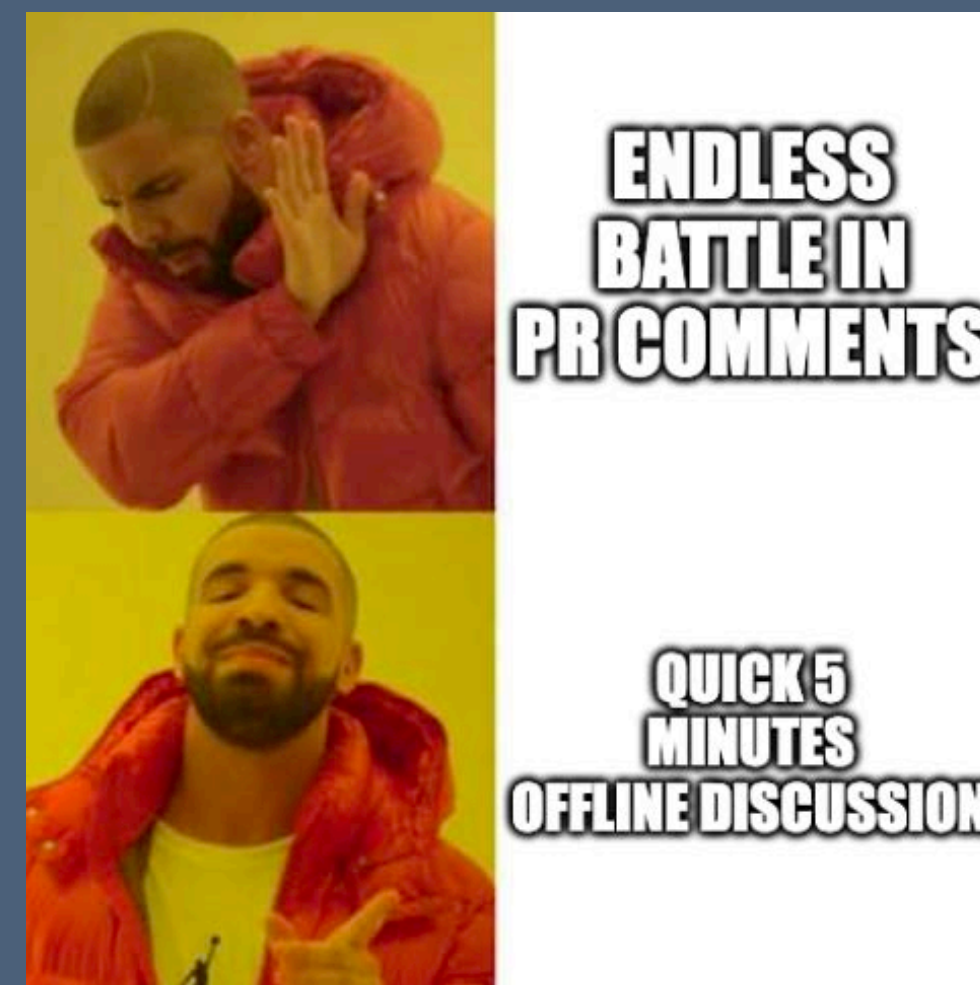
Thank you!

And happy coding :)

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