

Extending the PHP language with static analysis

Dave Liddament (Lamp Bristol)

@DaveLiddament

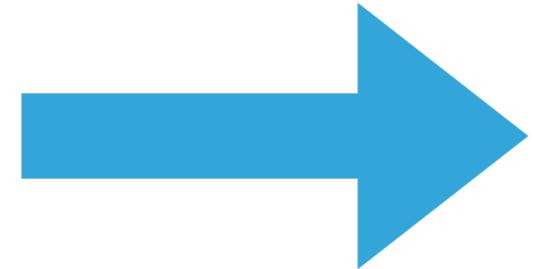


IF ONLY PHP HAD FEATURE ...
SIMILAR TO LANGUAGE ...

WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT IF PHP COULD
DO ...

HOW I BUILT NEW LANGUAGE FEATURES

Very
specific
constraint

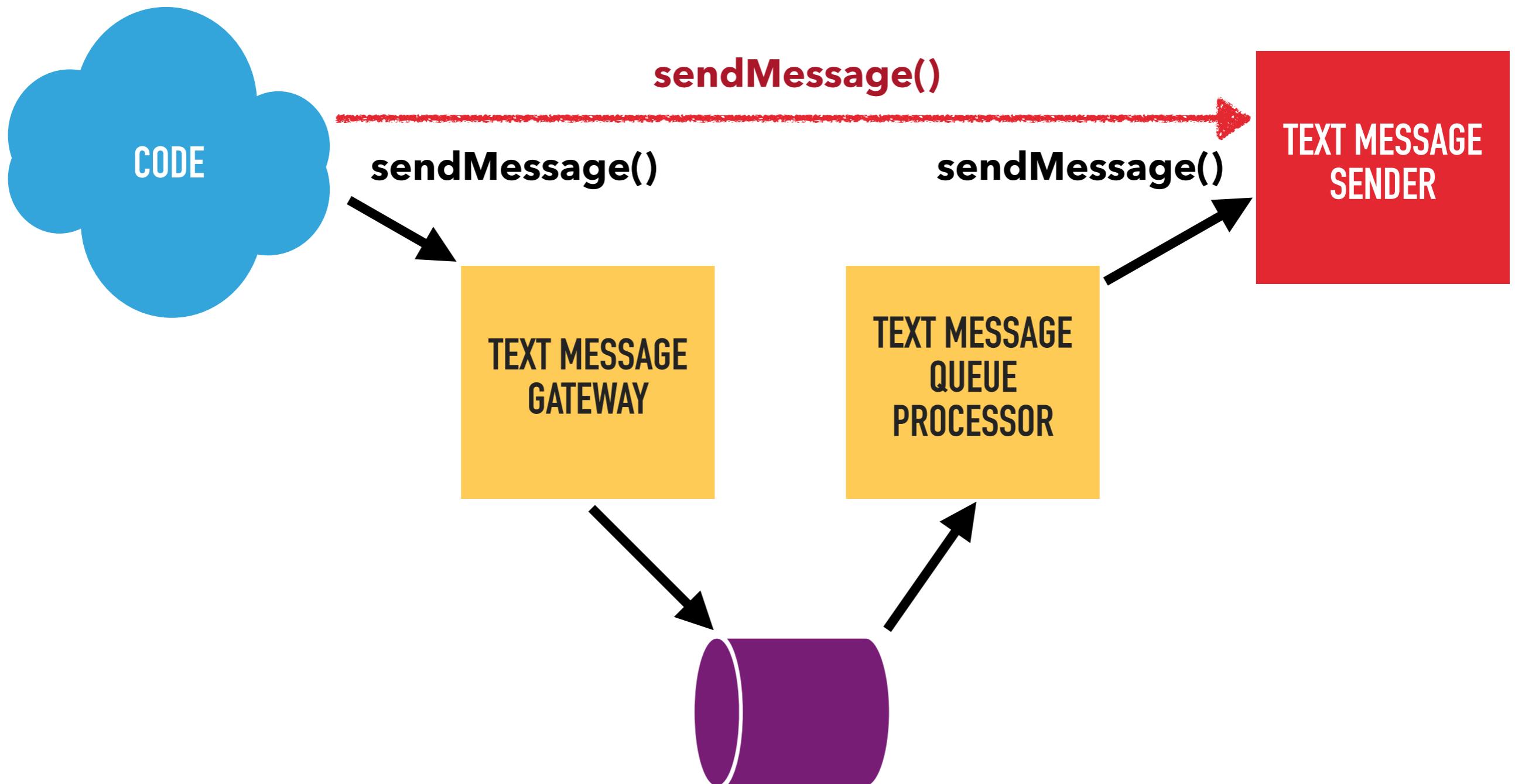


Generalised
version that
could be a
useful on your
project

Preconditions

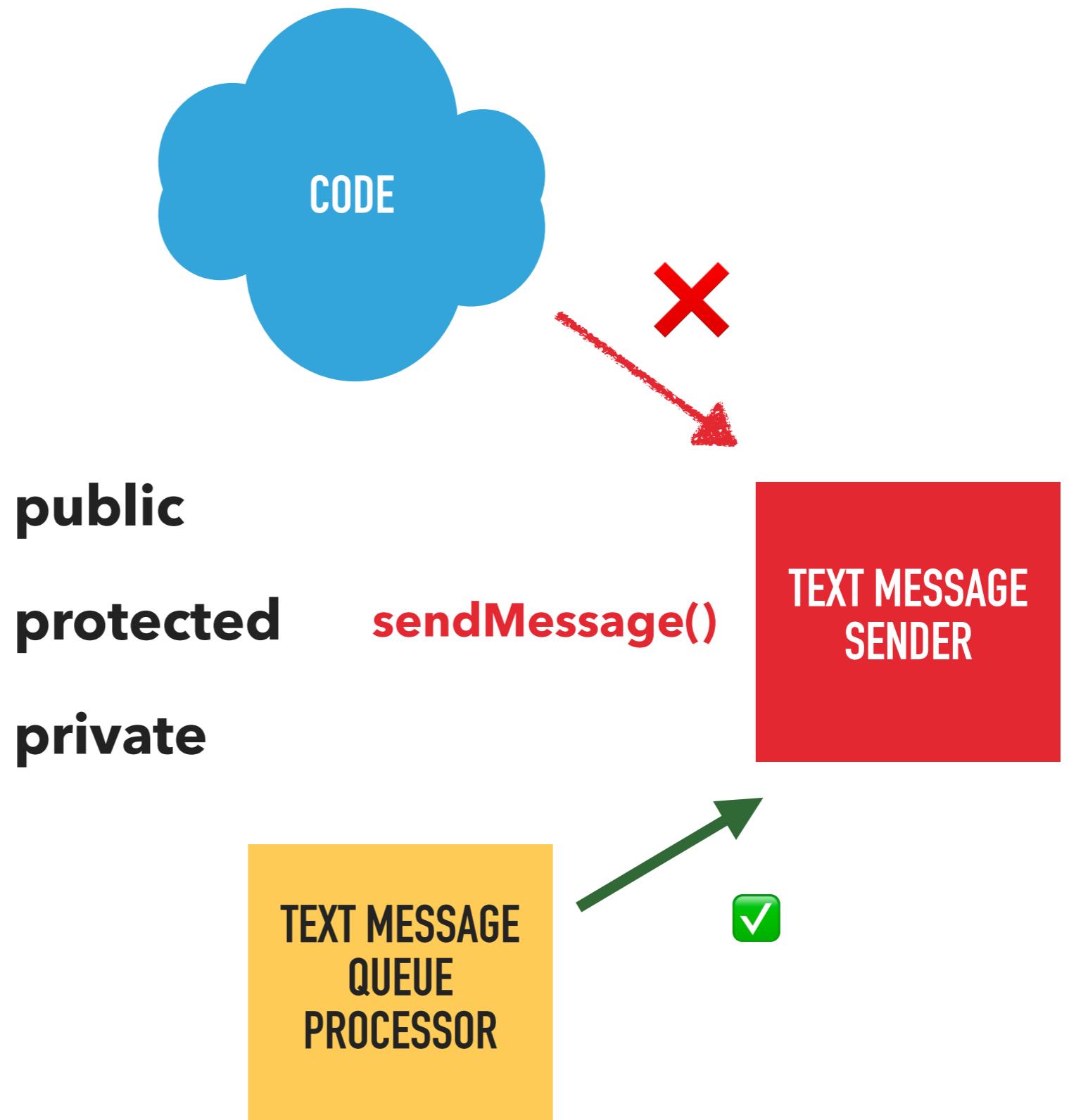


One of many examples...



*Existing visibility
modifiers are not
fine grained
enough.*

*We need more
control.*



**Automate checks to stop me, or other
developers, breaking this constraint**

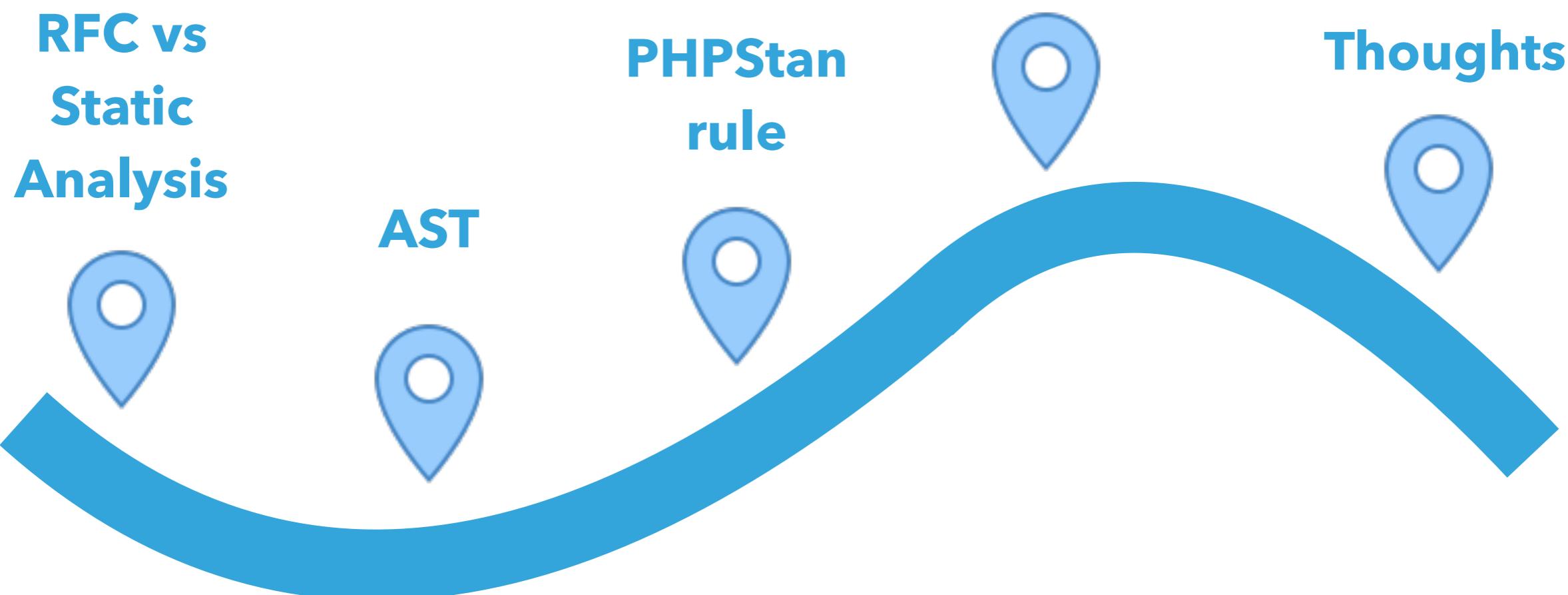
**RFC vs
Static
Analysis**

AST

**PHPStan
rule**

**PHP Extension
Library**

Thoughts



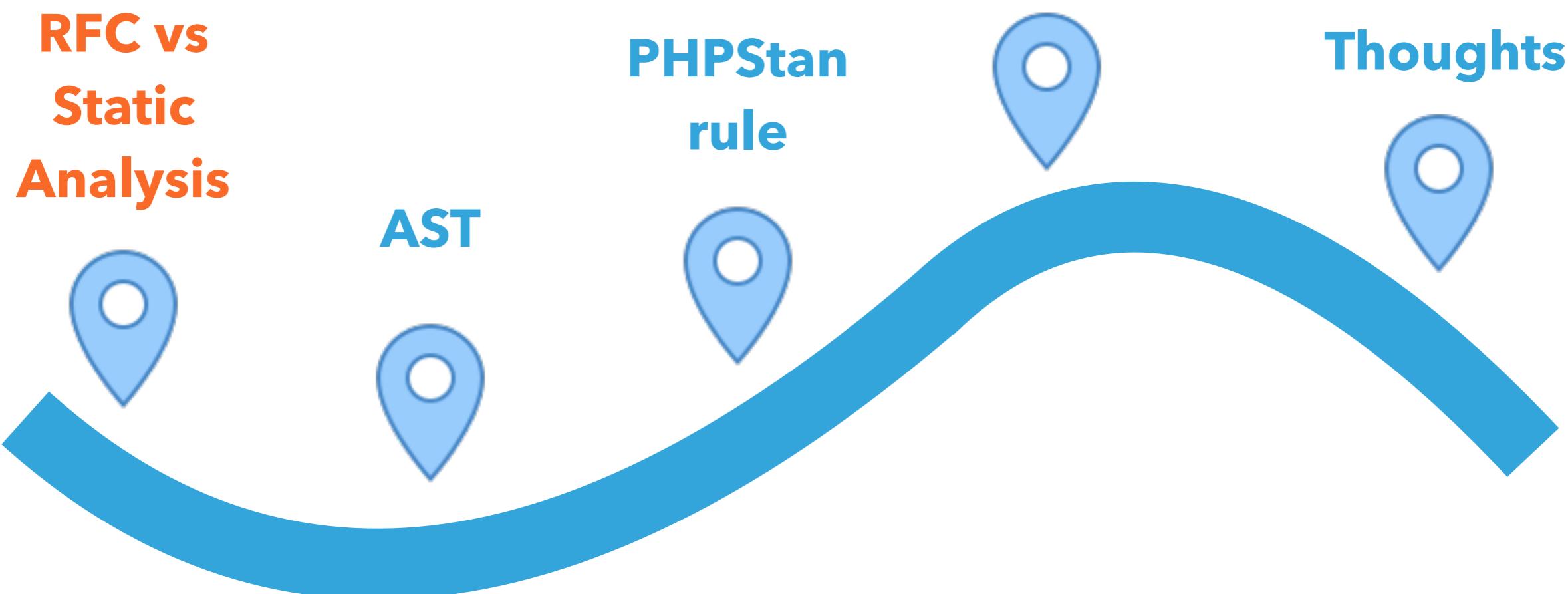
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Static
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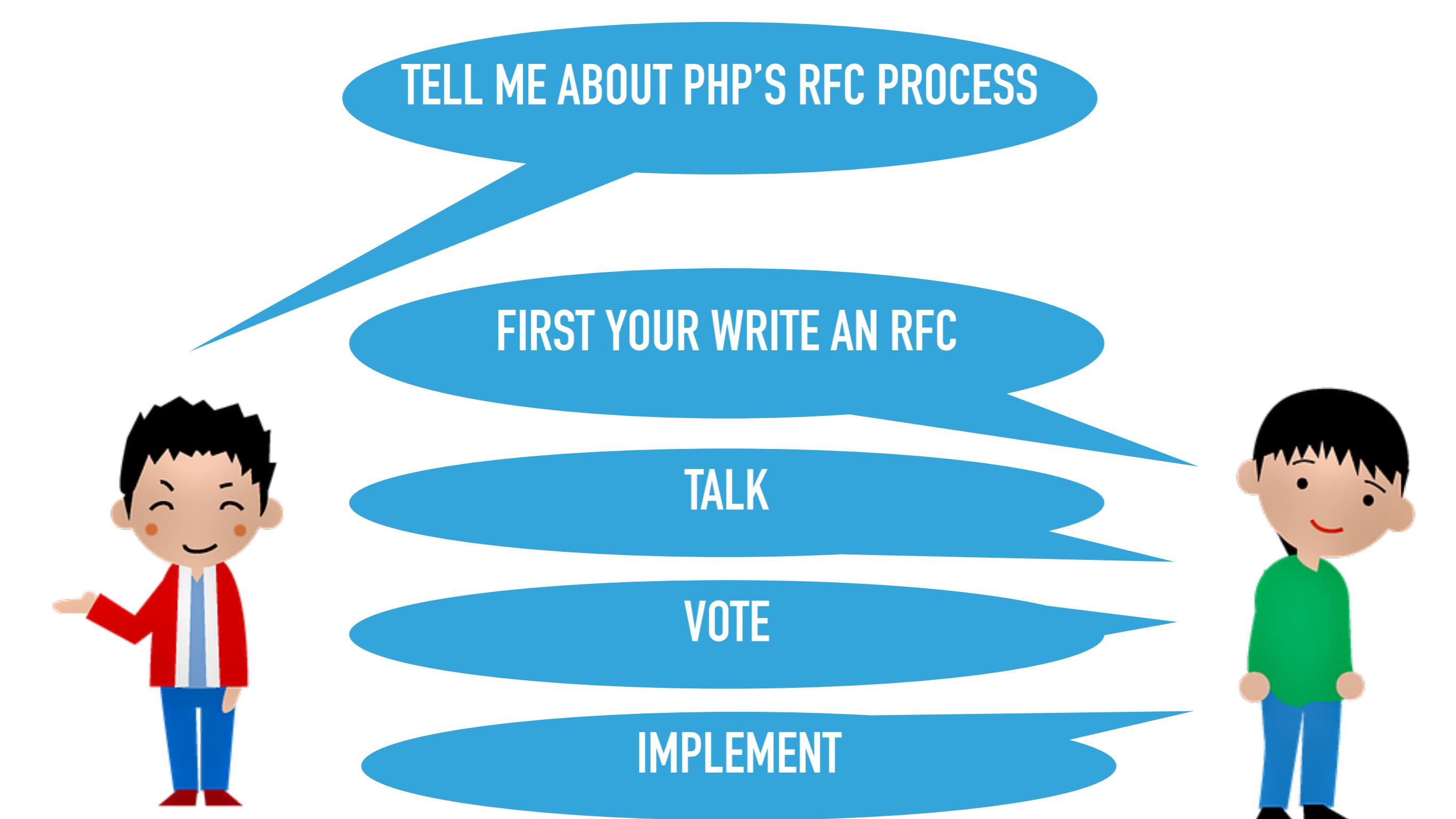
AST

**PHPStan
rule**

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Thoughts





TELL ME ABOUT PHP'S RFC PROCESS

FIRST YOU WRITE AN RFC

TALK

VOTE

IMPLEMENT

A LONG AND DIFFICULT PROCESS!

THERE IS ANOTHER WAY...

... FOR SOME FUNCTIONALITY

Run time

```
class Person  
{  
    private function update()  
    {  
        // Some code  
    }  
}
```

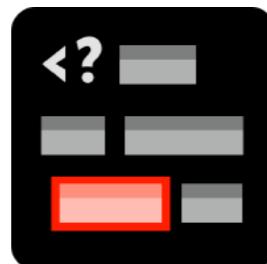
```
$person = new Person();  
$person->update();
```

Uncaught Error: Call to private
method Person::update()

Static analysis

```
class Person
{
    private function update()
    {
        // Some code
    }
}
```

```
$person = new Person();
$person->update(); X
```



Static analysis gives us generics now

```
/** @return Person[] */  
function getPeople():array { ... }
```

```
function process(Car $car) { ... }
```

```
for (getPeople() as $person) {  
    process($person);  
}
```



Add static analysis to dev process



Create custom rules to emulate
new language features

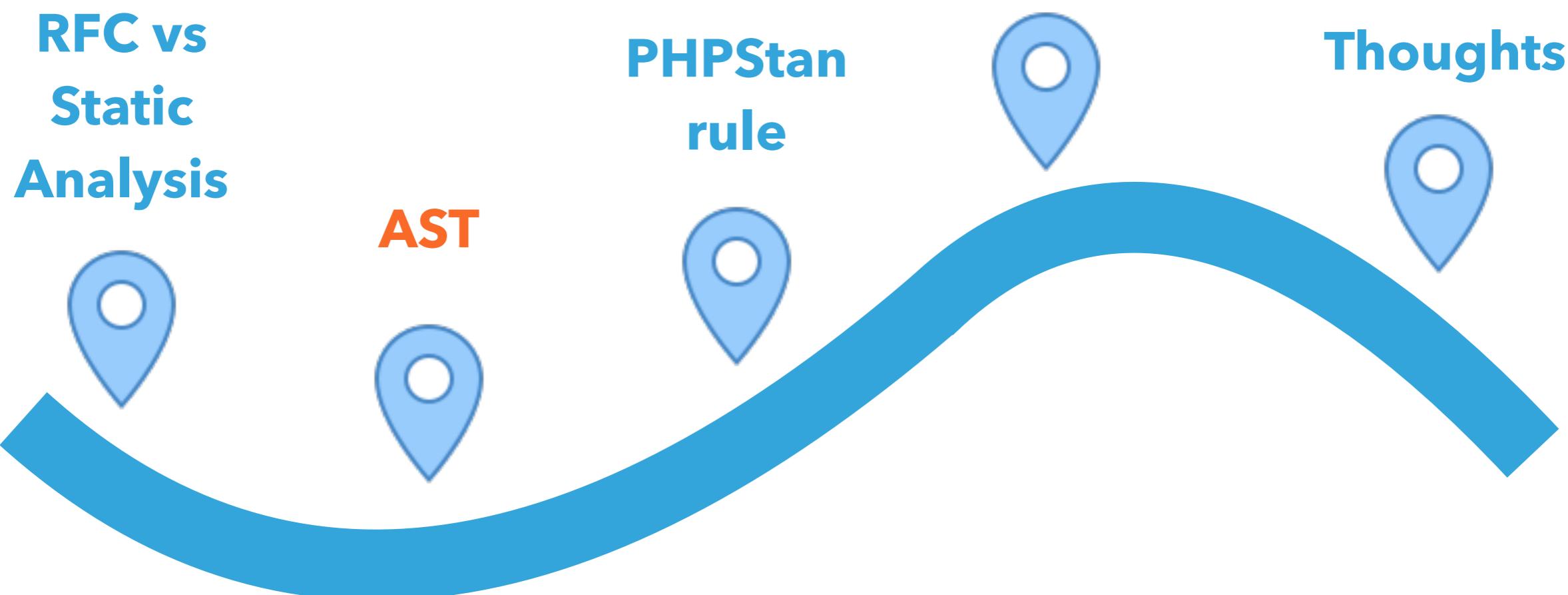
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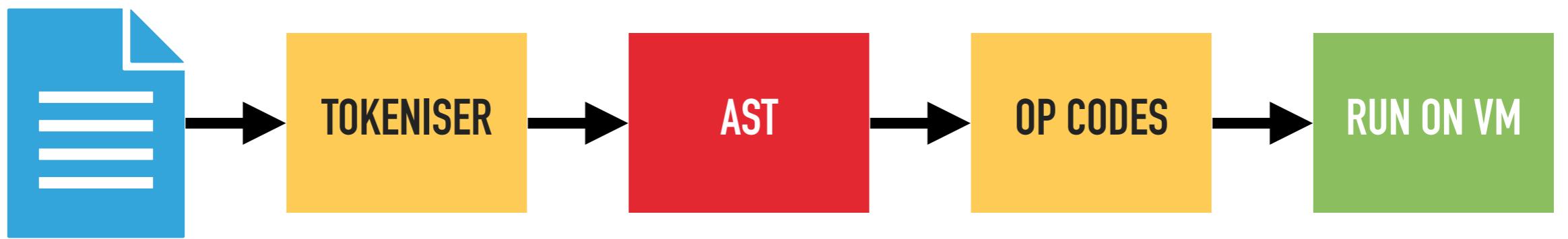
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Thoughts





```
class PersonNotifier
```

```
{
```

```
private TextMessageSender $sender;  
public function __construct() {...}  
public function notifyPlayer() {...}
```

```
}
```

Name

CLASS
Flags: 0

Statements

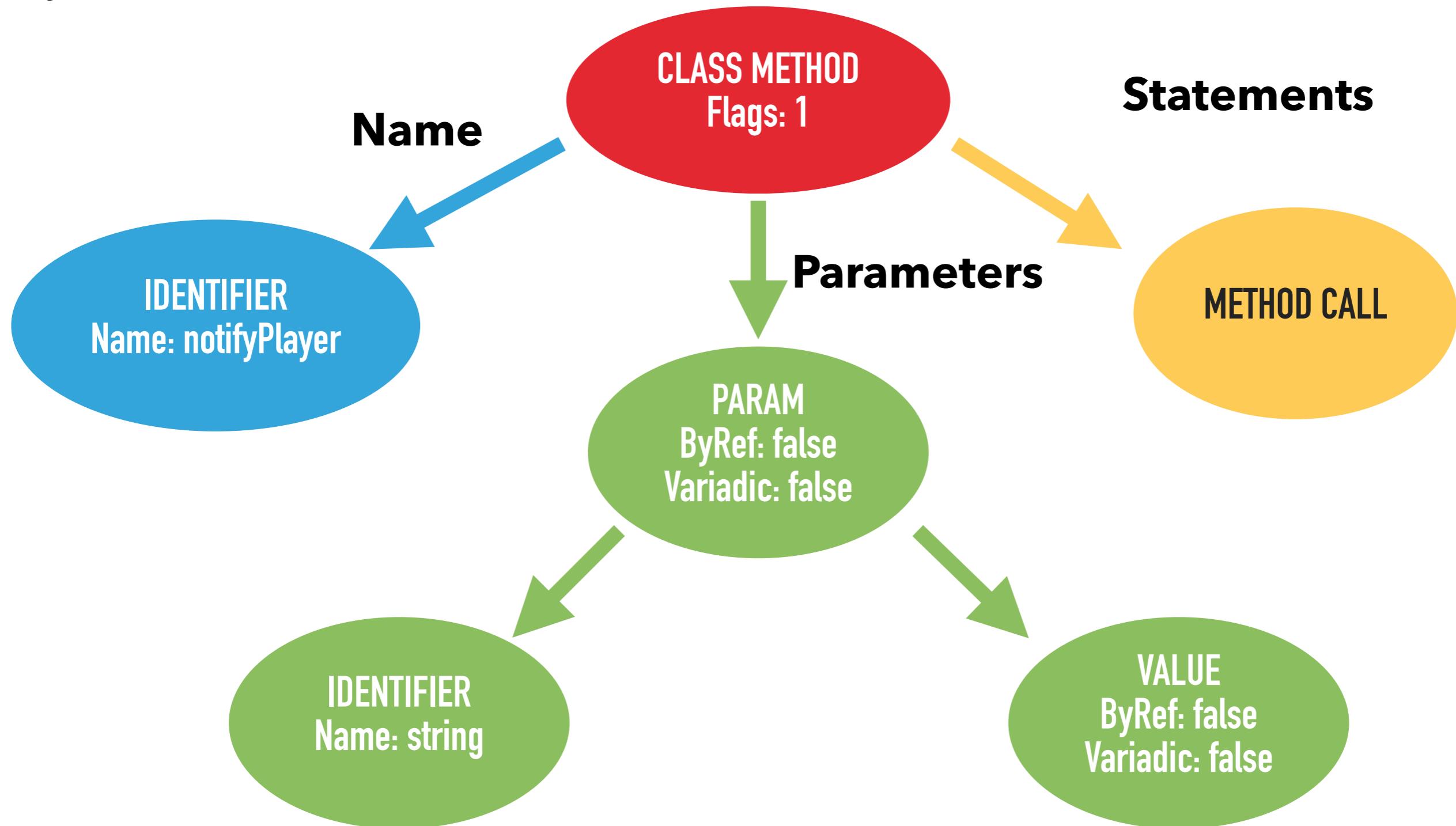
IDENTIFIER
Name: PersonNotifier

PROPERTY
Flags: 4

CLASS METHOD
Flags: 1

CLASS METHOD
Flags: 1

```
public function notifyPlayer(string $msg)  
{  
    $this->sender->sendMessage($msg);  
}
```



<https://github.com/nikic/PHP-Parser>

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for 'nikic/PHP-Parser'. The page has a light gray header with the repository name and a 'Public' badge. On the right, there are 'Watch' (232), 'Fork' (891), and a dropdown menu. Below the header, there's a navigation bar with 'Code' (selected), 'Issues' (44), 'Pull requests' (9), 'Actions', 'Wiki', 'Security', and 'Insights'. A search bar is at the top of the main content area. The main content area shows the 'Code' tab. It displays the 'master' branch (9 branches, 80 tags), a commit by 'nikic' titled 'Bail out on PHP tags in removed code' (b0edd4c, 2 hours ago, 1,526 commits), and a commit by 'Test PHP 8.2 in CI' (3 days ago). To the right, there's an 'About' section with the text 'A PHP parser written in PHP' and tags for 'php', 'parser', 'static-analysis', and 'ast'. There are also links for 'Readme' and 'Issues'.

- ▶ PHP code can be represented by an AST
- ▶ Different types of Node
- ▶ Nodes contain information
- ▶ Each type of node has different information

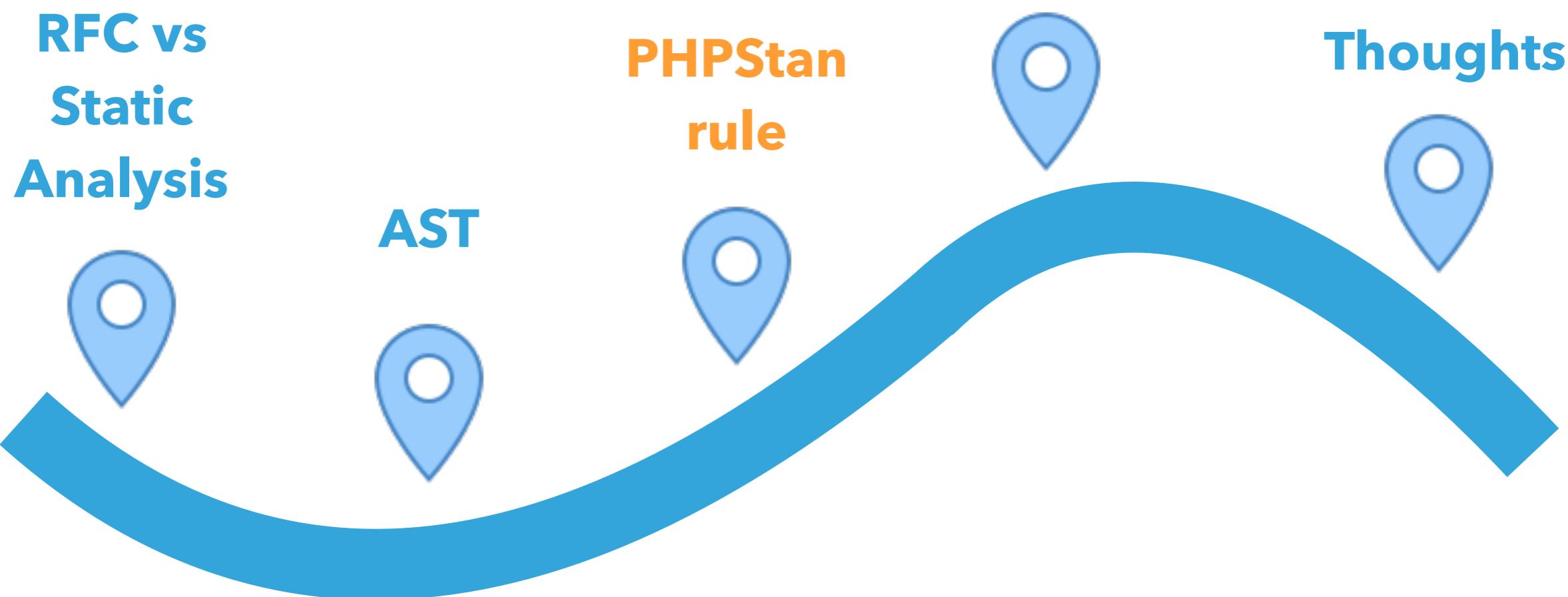
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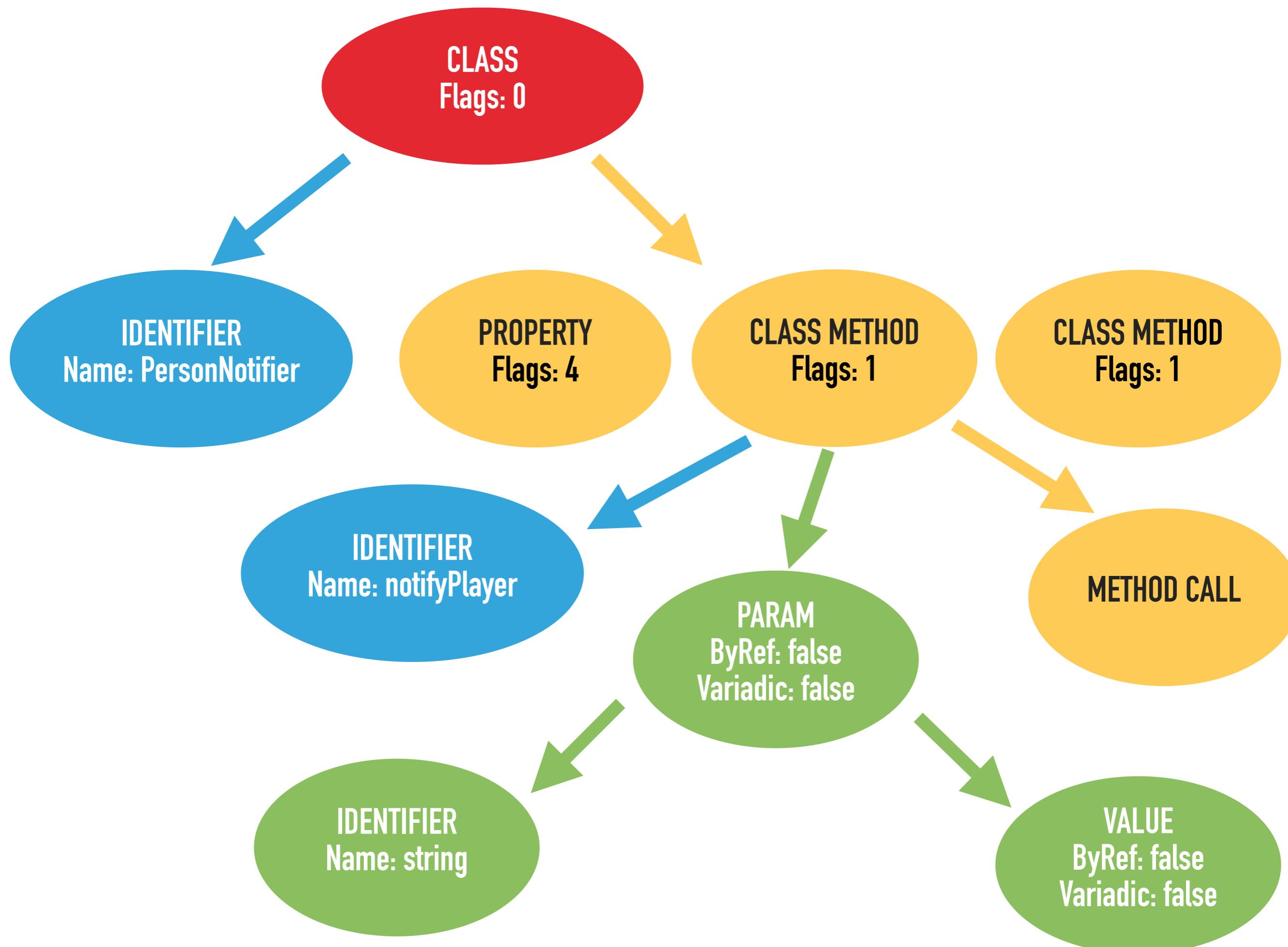
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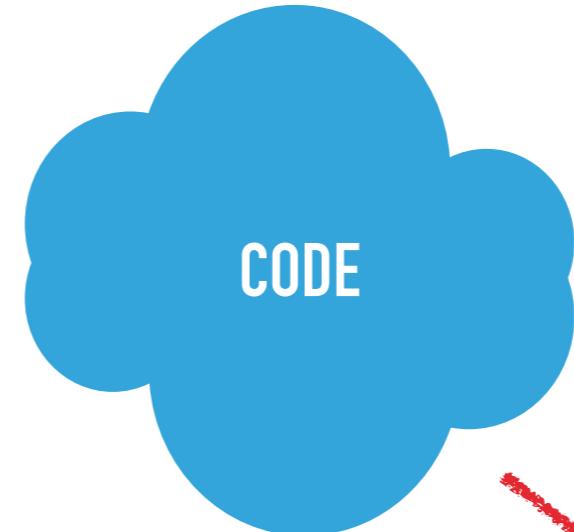




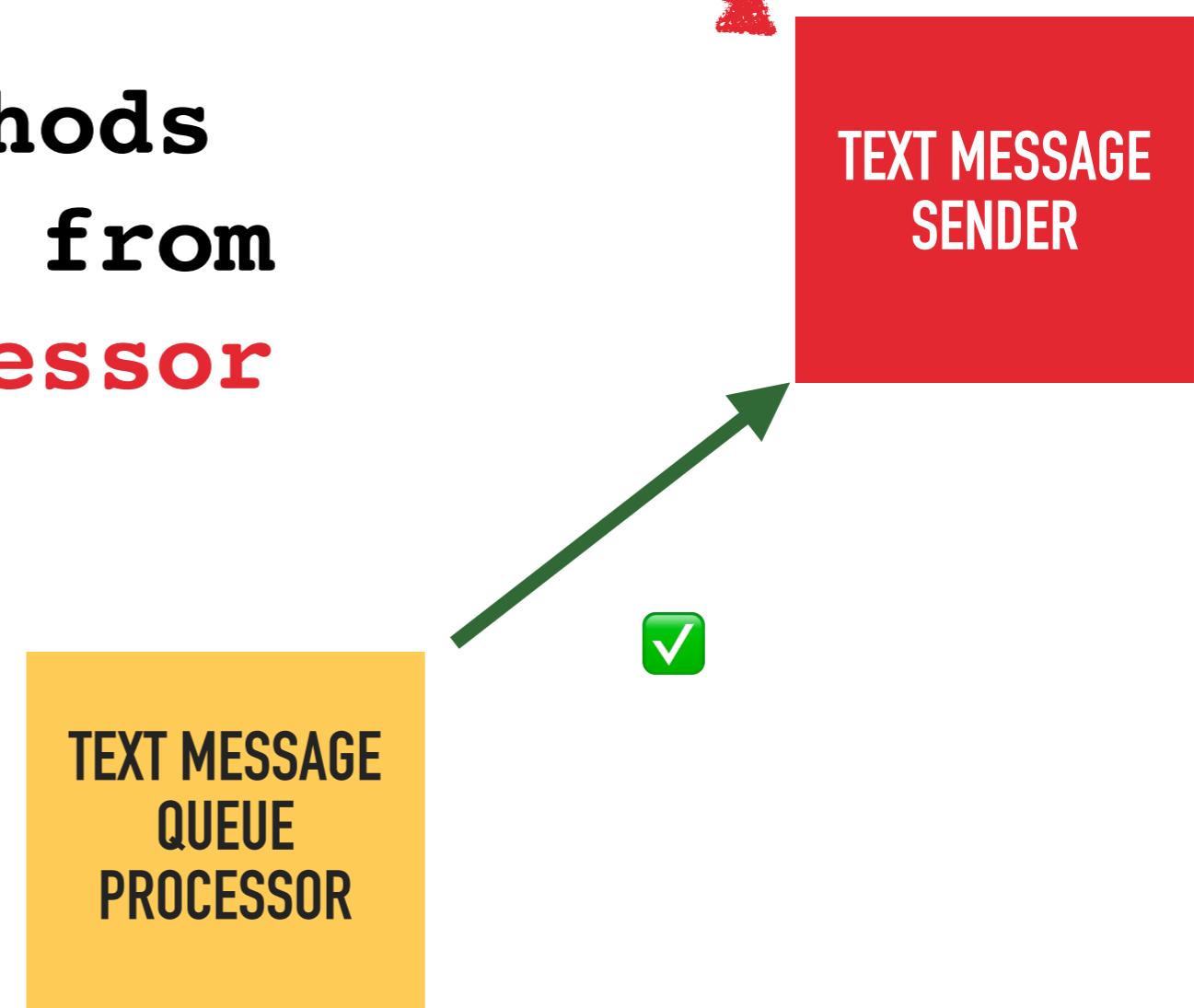
```
interface Rule
{
    public function getNodeType() : string;

    /**
     * @return (string|RuleError)[] errors
     */

    public function processNode(
        \PhpParser\Node $node,
        \PHPStan\Analyser\Scope $scope
    ) : array;
}
```

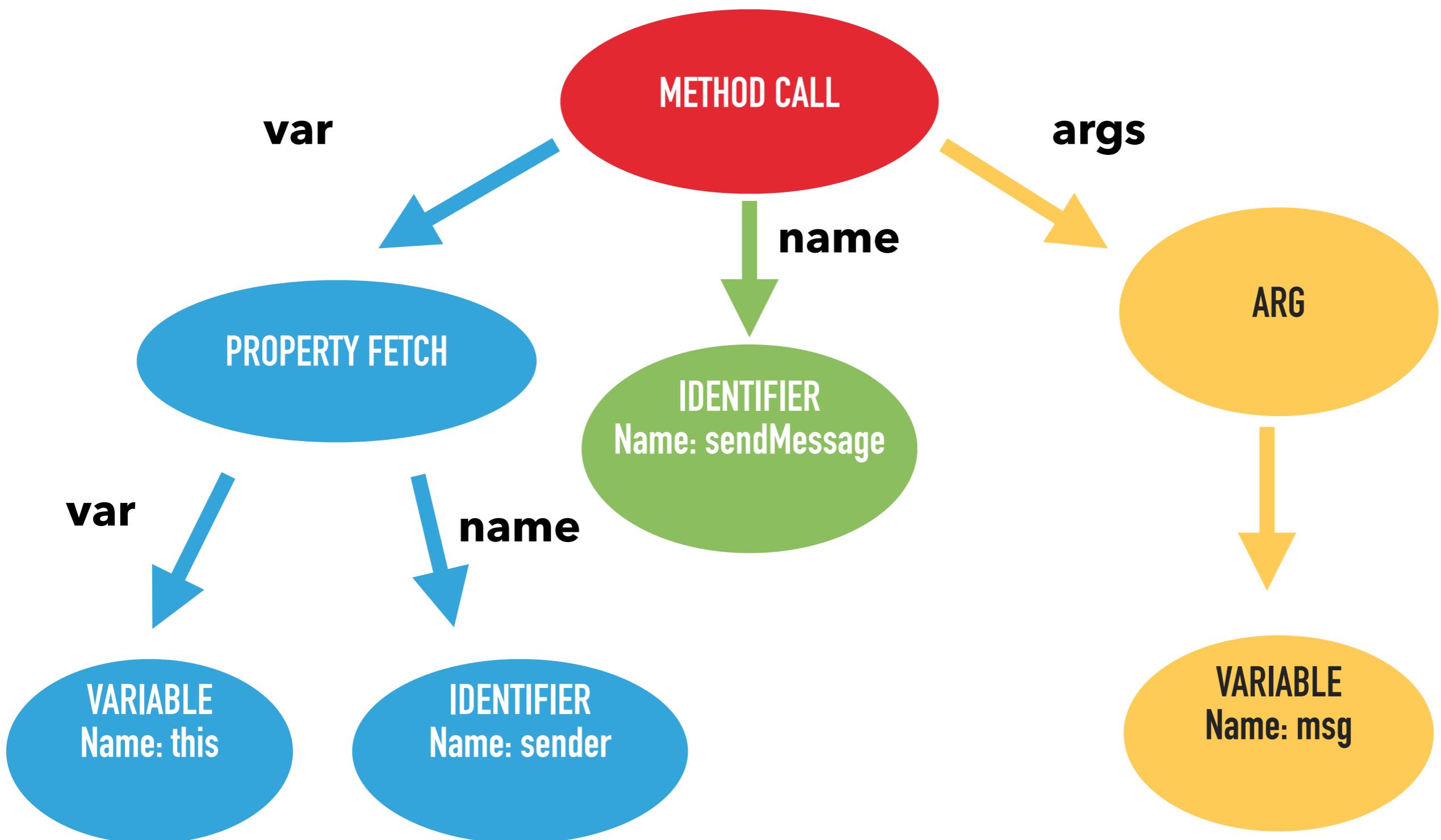


✗



We can only call methods
in `TextMessageSender` from
`TextMessageQueueProcessor`

```
$this->sender -> sendMessage($msg);
```



```
class MethodCall extends \PhpParser\Node\Expr\CallLike
{
    /**
     * @var Expr Variable holding object */
    public $var;

    /**
     * @var Identifier|Expr Method name */
    public $name;

    /**
     * @var array<Arg|VariadicPlaceholder> Arguments */
    public $args;

    // Rest of class ...
}
```

```
$this->sender -> sendMessage ($msg) ;
```

```
class TextMessageSenderCallerRule  
    implements Rule  
{
```

```
    public function getNodeType(): string  
    {  
        return MethodCall::class;  
    }
```

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
        return [];
    }

    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Can't call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
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    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
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        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Can't call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```

```
class PersonNotifier
{
    private TextMessageSender $sender;

    public function notifyPlayer(string $msg): void
    {
        $this->sender->sendMessage($msg);
    }
}
```

\$this->sender is called from **PersonNotifier**

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
        return [];
    }

    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Can't call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```

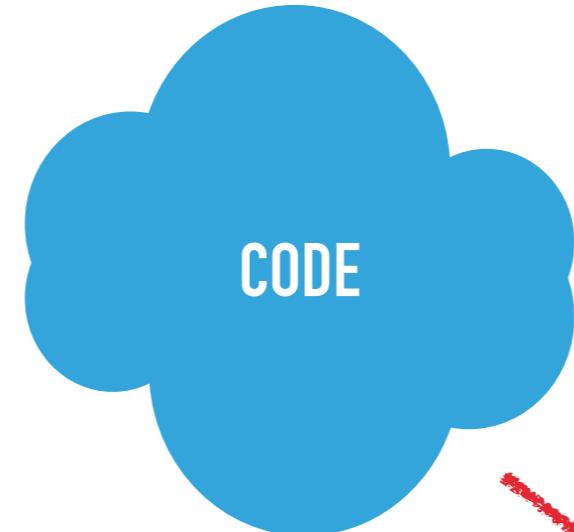
```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
        return [];
    }

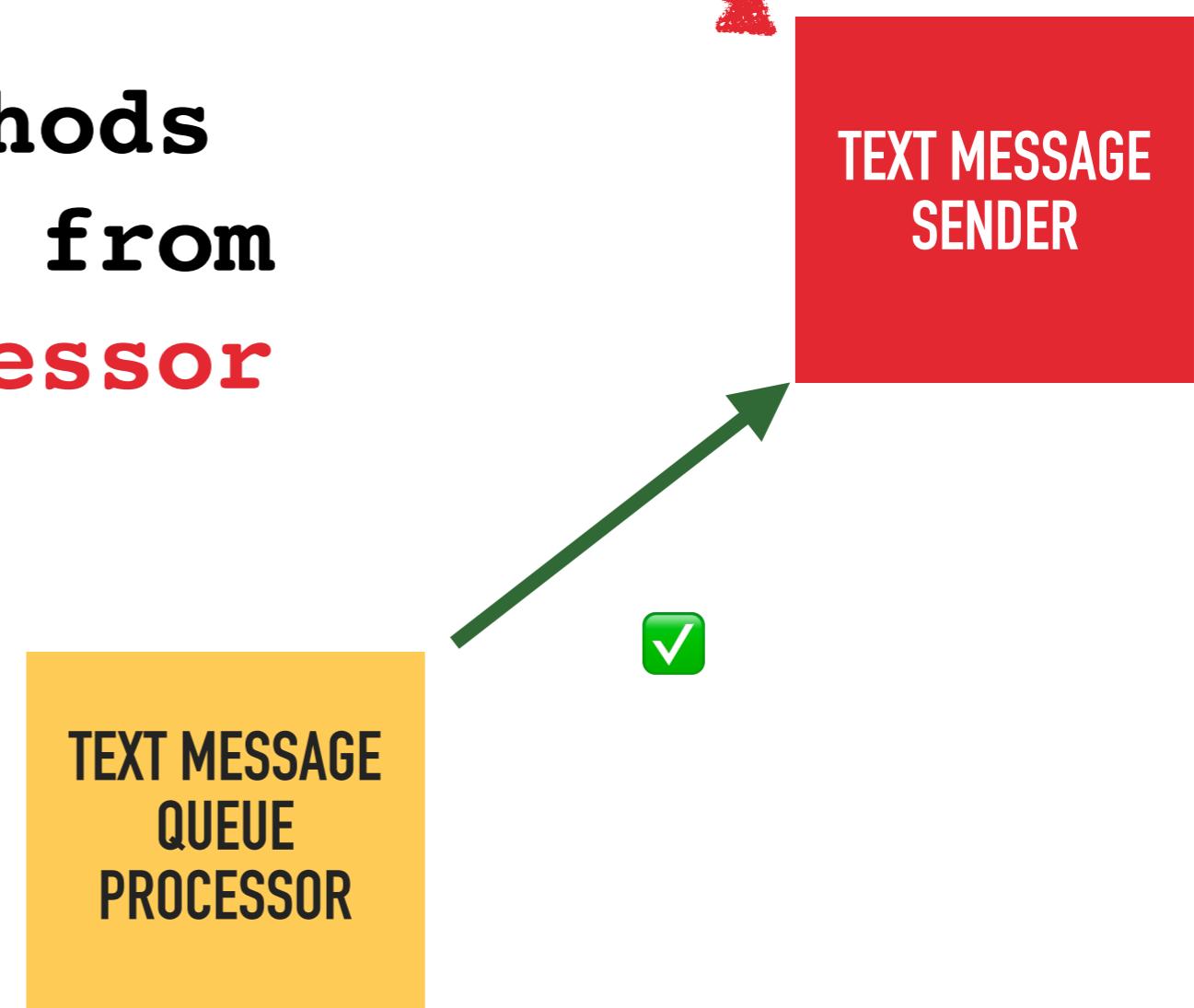
    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Can't call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```



✗



We can only call methods
in `TextMessageSender` from
`TextMessageQueueProcessor`

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
        return [];
    }

    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Can't call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```

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public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
        return [];
    }

    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Can't call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```

```
$this->sender->notfiyPlayer($msg);
```



var



name



args

```
class PersonNotifier
```

```
{
```

```
    private TextMessageSender $sender;
```

```
    public function notifyPlayer(string $msg): void
```

```
{
```

```
        $this->sender->sendMessage($msg);
```

```
}
```

```
}
```

```
$this->sender is of type TextMessageSender
```

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
        return [];
    }

    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Can't call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
        return [];
    }

    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Cant call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```

```
class PersonNotifier
{
    private TextMessageSender|WhatsappSender $sender;

    public function notifyPlayer(string $msg): void
    {
        $this->sender->sendMessage($msg);
    }
}
```

\$this->sender is of type **TextMessageSender**
or **WhatsappSender**

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
        return [];
    }

    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Cant call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```

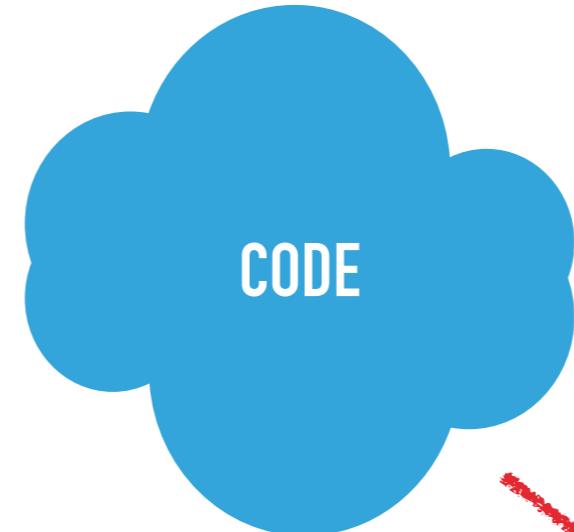
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        return [];
    }

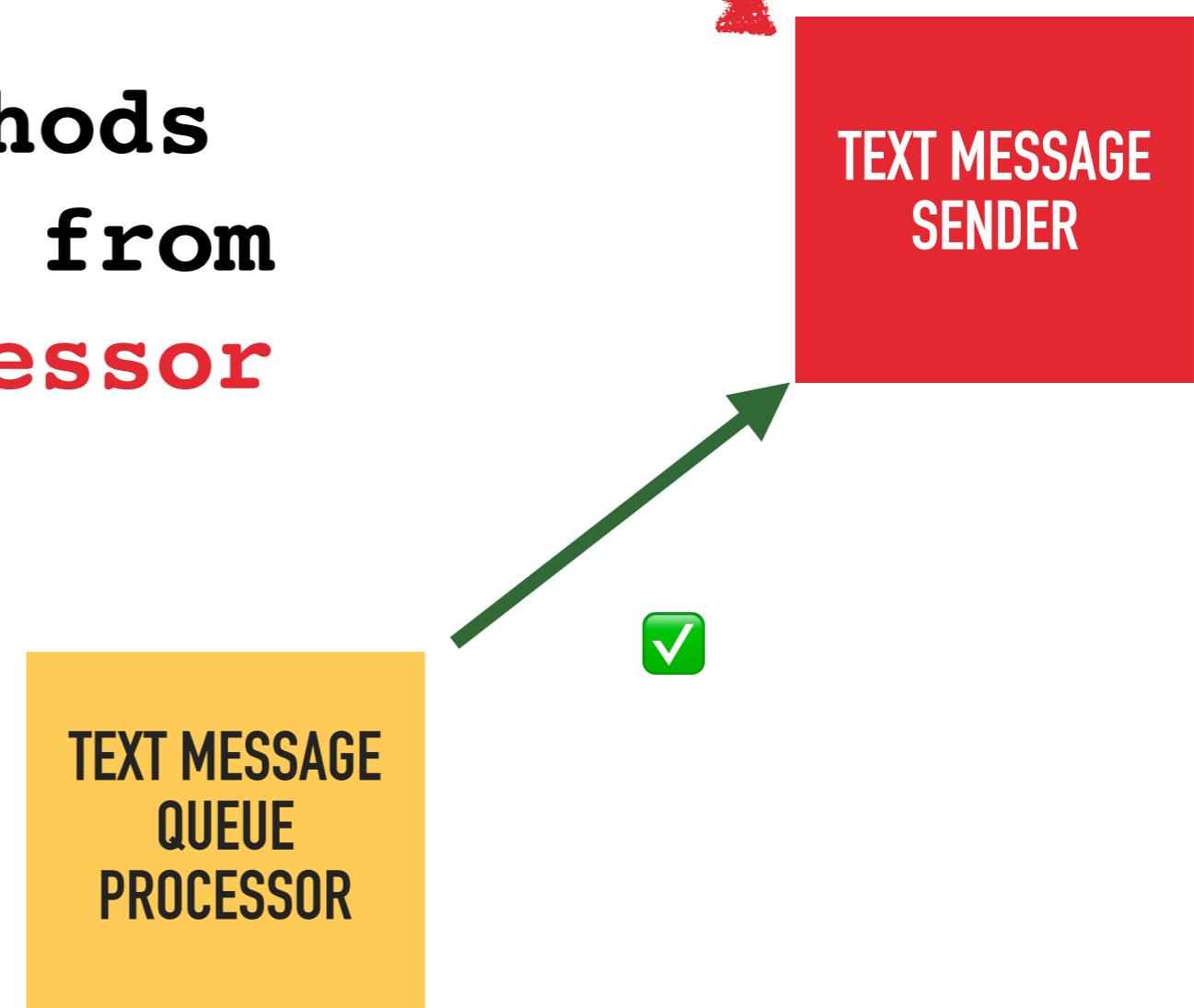
    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Cant call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```



✗



We can only call methods
in `TextMessageSender` from
`TextMessageQueueProcessor`

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
        return [];
    }

    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Cant call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
        return [];
    }

    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Cant call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    // Find the class that method call is in
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

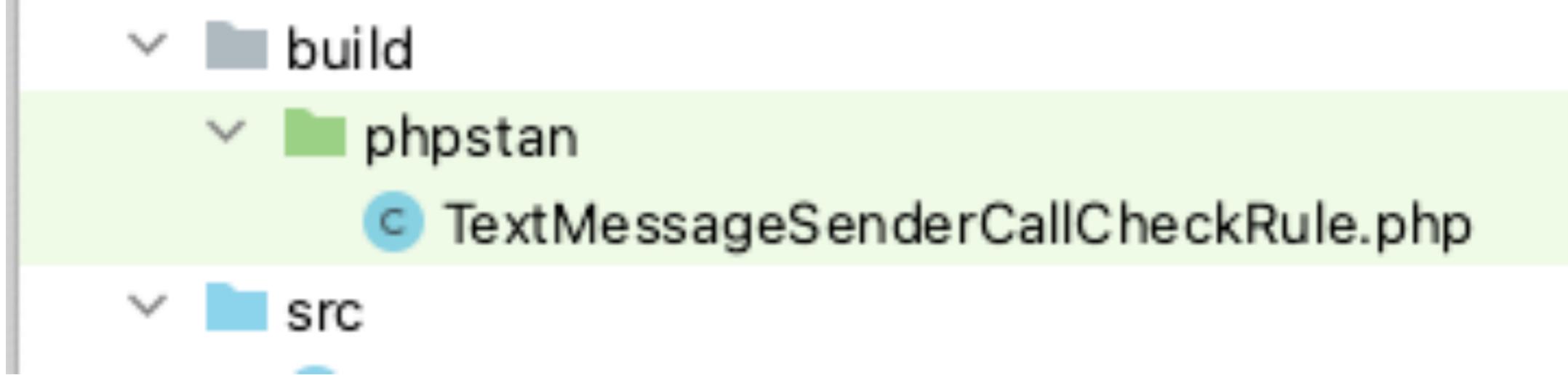
    // If in TextMessageQueueProcessor everything is OK
    if ($callingClass === TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) {
        return [];
    }

    // Get type of the class of the method call
    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

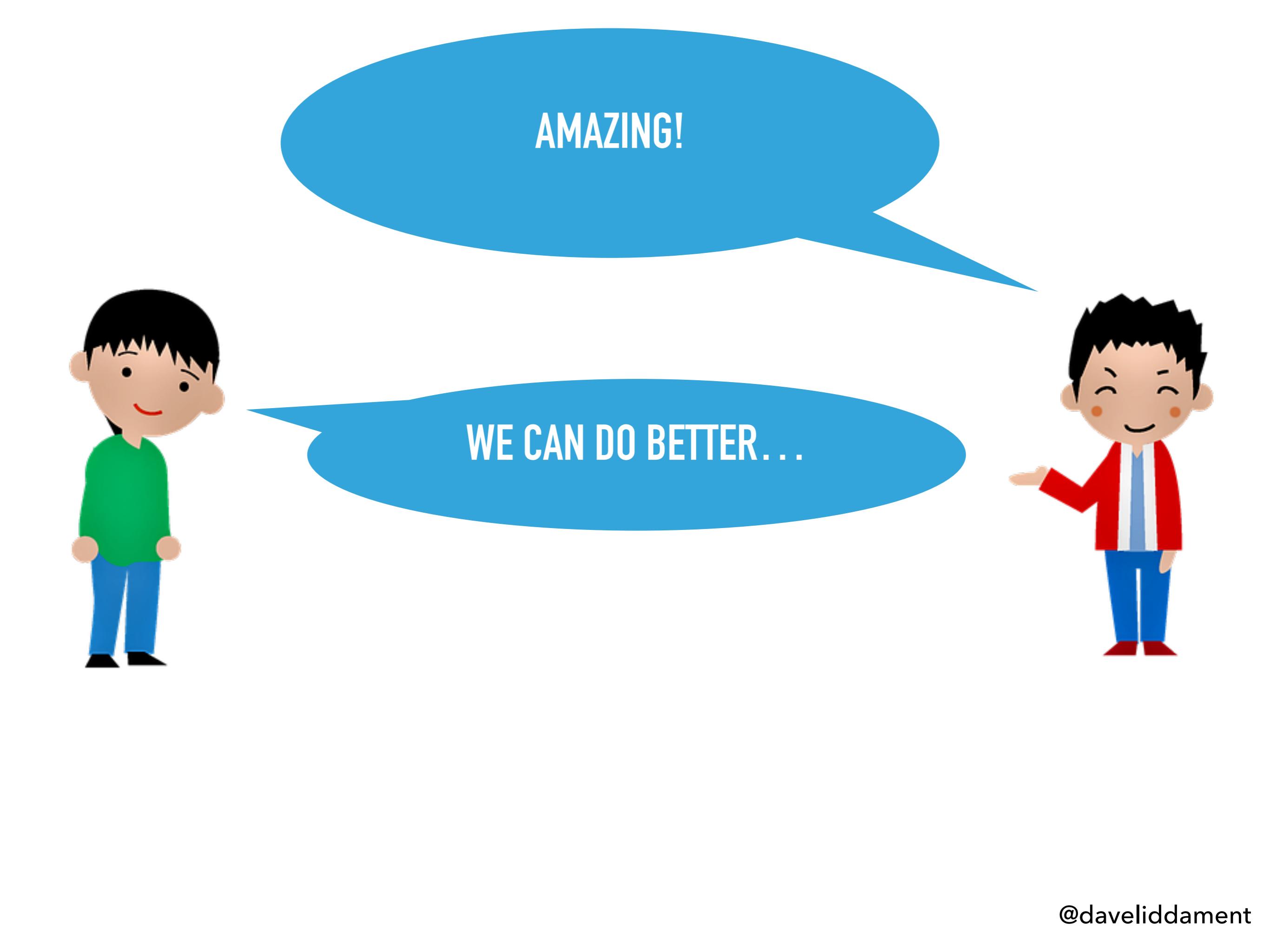
    // Iterate through all the possible classes
    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {

        // Trying to call a method in TextMessageSender? Report error
        if ($targetClass === TextMessageSender::class) {
            $message = "Cant call TextMessageSender from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($message)->build()];
        }
    }

    // If we've got this far then there are no errors
    return [];
}
```

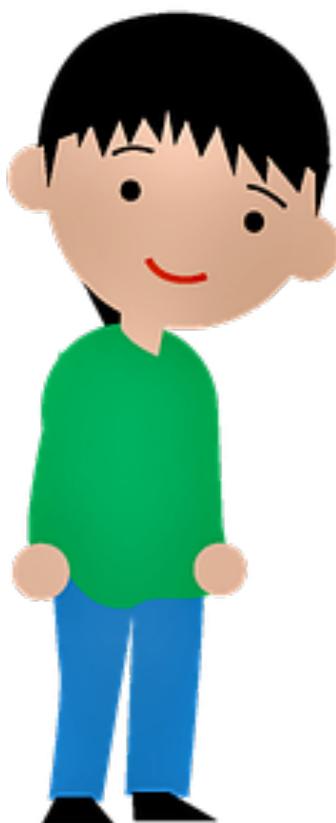


```
"autoload-dev": {  
    "psr-4": {  
        "DaveLiddament\\PhpstanRules\\": "build/phpstan/"  
    }  
},  
  
services:  
-  
    class: DaveLiddament\PhpstanRules\TextMessageSenderCallCheckRule  
    tags:  
    - phpstan.rules.rule
```



AMAZING!

WE CAN DO BETTER...



We can only call
methods in target class
from a specified
allowed calling class

```
class TextMessageSenderCallerRule implements Rule
{
```

```
    public function __construct(
        private string $allowedCallingClass,
        private string $targetClass,
    ) {}
```

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();

    if ($callingClass === $this->allowedCallingClass) {
        return [];
    }

    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
        if ($targetClass === $this->targetClass) {
            $msg = "Can not call {$this->targetClass} from here";
            return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($msg)->build()];
        }
    }

    return [];
}
```

services:

-

class: PhpstanRules\TextMessageSenderCallCheckRule

tags:

 - phpstan.rules.rule

arguments:

allowedCallingClass: RuleDemo\TextMessageQueueProcessor

targetClass: RuleDemo\TextMessageSender

class: PhpstanRules\TextMessageSenderCallCheckRule

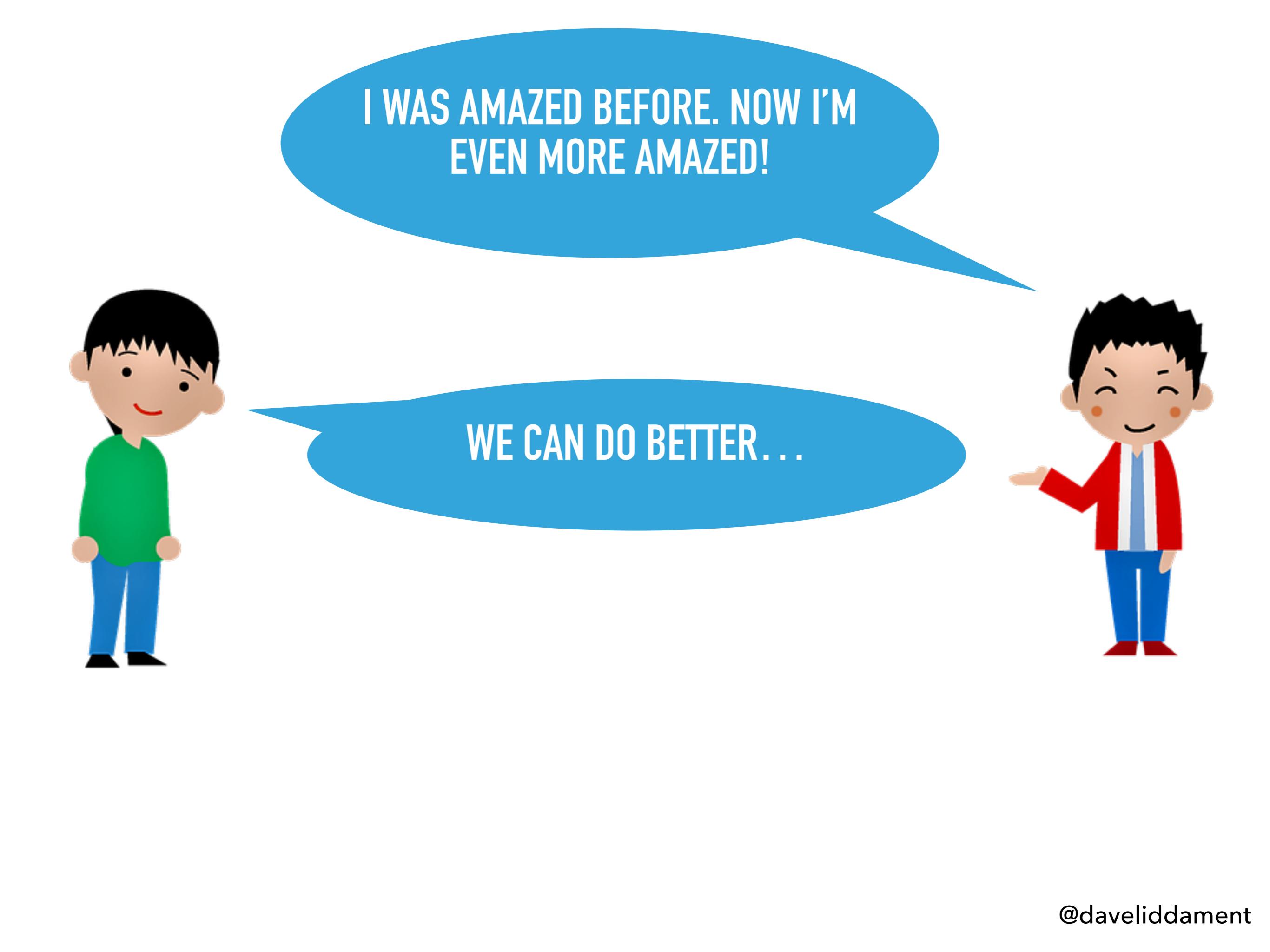
tags:

 - phpstan.rules.rule

arguments:

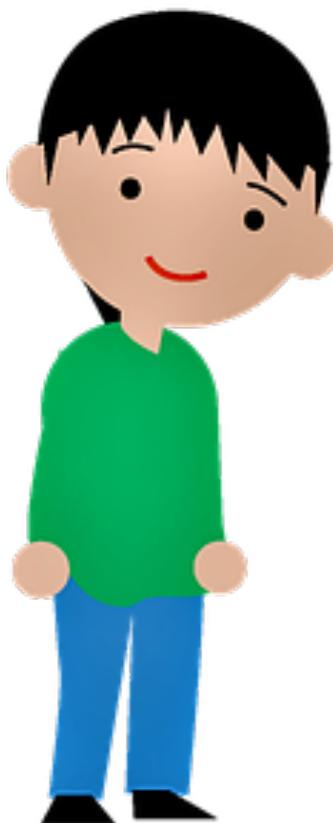
allowedCallingClass: Foo

targetClass: Bar



I WAS AMAZED BEFORE. NOW I'M
EVEN MORE AMAZED!

WE CAN DO BETTER...



```
/**  
 * Can only be called from TextMessageQueueProcessor  
 */  
class TextMessageSender  
{  
}  
}
```

- ▶ Remember to document
- ▶ Remember to setup some config
- ▶ What happens if we rename a class?

```
# [Attribute(Attribute::TARGET_CLASS) ]  
class Friend  
{  
  
    /** @param class-string $friend */  
    public function __construct(  
        public string $friend,  
    ) {}  
}
```

```
# [Friend(TextMessageQueueProcessor::class) ]  
class TextMessageSender  
{  
  
}
```

```
public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
{
    $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();
    $type = $scope->getType($node->var);

    foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {

        // TODO:
        // 1. Does $targetClass have a #[Friend] attribute
        // 2. Yes? Check $callingClass is a friend of $targetClass
    }

    return [];
}
```

```
class TextMessageSenderCallerRule implements Rule
{
    public function __construct(
        private ReflectionProvider $reflectionProvider,
    ) {}
}
```

```
foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {
```

```
// 1. Does $targetClass have a #[Friend] attribute
```

```
$info = $this->reflectionProvider->getClass($targetClass);
```

```
$nativeReflection = $info->getNativeReflection();
```

```
$friendAttributes = $nativeReflection  
                    ->getAttributes(Friend::class);
```

```
if (count($friendAttributes) !== 1) {  
    continue;  
}
```

```
$friendAttribute = $friendAttributes[0];  
$friendArguments = $friendAttribute->getArguments();
```

```
if (count($friendArguments) !== 1) {  
    continue;  
}
```

```
$friendClass = $friendArguments[0];
```

```
foreach ($type->getReferencedClasses() as $targetClass) {  
  
    // Step 1 see previous slide  
  
    // 2. Yes? Check $callingClass is a friend of $targetClass  
  
    if ($callingClass !== $friendClass) {  
  
        $msg = sprintf(  
            "%s can only be called its friend %s and not from %s",  
            $targetClass,  
            $friendClass,  
            $callingClass);  
  
        return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($msg)->build()];  
    }  
}  
}
```

```
class TextMessageSenderCallCheckRule implements Rule
{
    public function __construct(
        private ReflectionProvider $reflectionProvider,
        private string $targetClass
    ) {}

    public function getMethodCalls(): array
    {
        return MethodCall::create(
            $this->getReflectionProvider()
                ->getNativeReflection($targetClass)
                ->getNativeMethodCalls()
        );
    }

    public function processNode(Node $node, Scope $scope): array
    {
        $callingClass = $scope->getClassReflection()->getName();
        $callingType = $scope->getType($node->var);

        if ($callingType->getReferencedClasses() && $callingType->getReferencedClasses()->count() === 1) {
            $targetClass = $callingType->getReferencedClasses()[0];
            $targetReflection = $this->getReflectionProvider()
                ->getNativeReflection($targetClass);
            $targetType = $targetReflection->getNativeType();

            if ($targetType->getAttributes() && $targetType->getAttributes()->count() === 1) {
                $targetAttribute = $targetType->getAttributes()[0];
                $friendArguments = $targetAttribute->getArguments();
                if ($friendArguments->count() === 1) {
                    $friend = $friendArguments[0];
                    if ($callingClass !== $friend) {
                        $msg = sprintf("Can not call %s from %s", $targetClass, $callingClass);
                        return [RuleErrorBuilder::message($msg)->build()];
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

<https://github.com/DaveLiddament/phpstan-rule-demo>

Custom Static Analysis Rules

+

Attributes

=

New Language Features

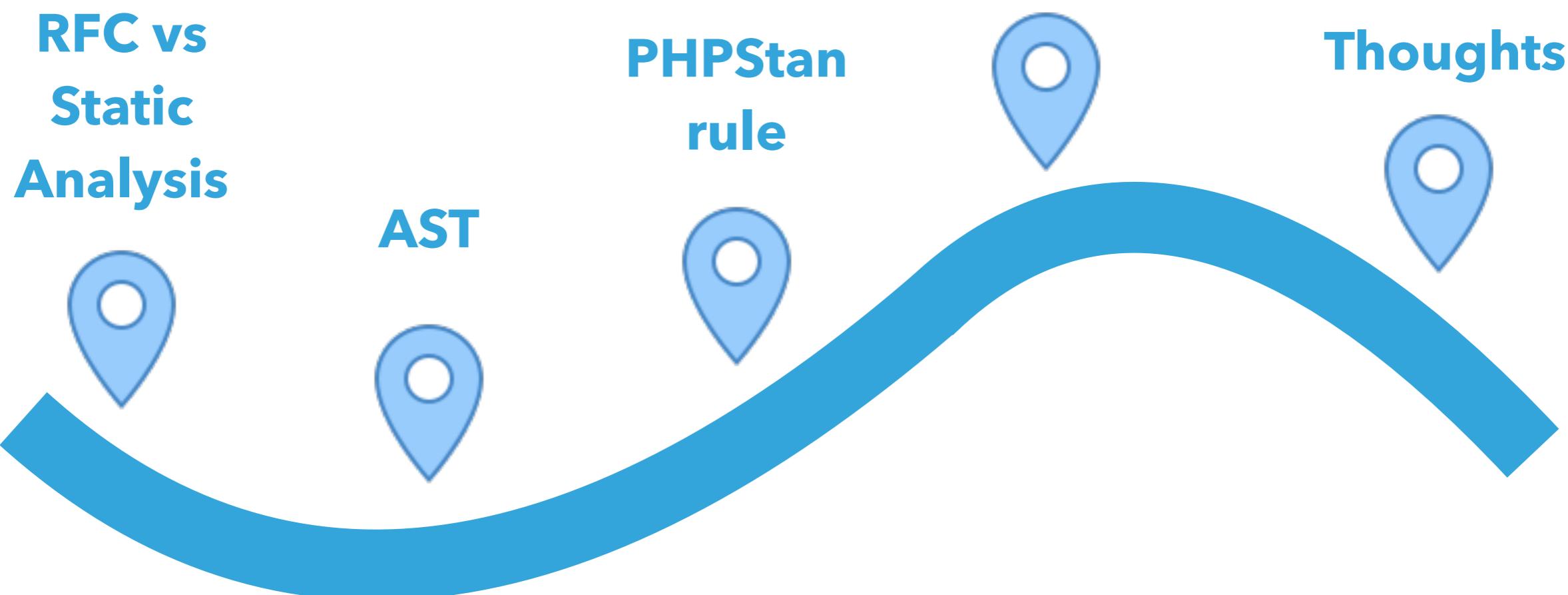
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Thoughts



[main](#) [1 branch](#) [3 tags](#)[Go to file](#)[Add file](#)[Code](#)

 DaveLiddament Merge pull request #6 from DaveLiddament/fix/test-tag-attrib...	...	aa2f632 8 days ago	22 commits
 .github/workflows	FIX remove unused section of github actions	2 months ago	
 examples	ADD InjectableVersion Attribute	9 days ago	
 src	FIX copy and paste error with TestTag	8 days ago	
 .gitignore	ADD linting, coding standards and phpstan	2 months ago	
 .php-cs-fixer.php	ADD linting, coding standards and phpstan	2 months ago	
 CONTRIBUTING.md	ADD contributing notes and update example code	2 months ago	
 LICENSE.md	INITIAL CHECK IN	2 months ago	
 README.md	ADD InjectableVersion Attribute	9 days ago	
 composer.json	ADD keywords to composer.json	2 months ago	
 composer.lock	ADD psalm	2 months ago	
 phpstan.neon	UPDATE Friend and Sealed to use variadic for friends/permited	2 months ago	
 psalm.xml	ADD psalm	2 months ago	

[README.md](#)

PHP Language Extensions (currently in BETA)

This library provides attributes for extending the PHP language (e.g. adding `package` visibility). The intention, at least initially, is that these extra language features are enforced by static analysis tools (such as Psalm, PHPStan and, ideally, PhpStorm) and NOT at runtime.

Language feature added:

- [Friend](#)
- [InjectableVersion](#)
- [Package](#)
- [Sealed](#)
- [TestTag](#)

About

Attributes to define PHP language extensions (to be enforced by static analysis)

[Readme](#)[MIT license](#)[16 stars](#)[2 watching](#)[1 fork](#)

Releases 3

[0.2.1 Latest](#)
8 days ago[+ 2 releases](#)

Packages

No packages published
[Publish your first package](#)

Contributors 2

 [DaveLiddament](#) Dave Liddament [ruudk](#) Ruud Kamphuis

Languages

PHP 100.0%

<https://github.com/DaveLiddament/php-language-extensions>

```
class Person
{
    #[Friend(PersonBuilder::class)]
    public function __construct()
    {
    }
}
```

```
namespace App\Pricing;  
  
#[NamespaceVisibility]  
class DiscountCalculator  
{  
    ... methods ...  
}
```

```
namespace App\Pricing;
```

```
# [NamespaceVisibility]  
class DiscountCalculator
```

```
{
```

```
... methods ...
```

```
}
```

```
namespace App\Pricing;
```



```
$calculator = new DiscountCalculator();
```

```
namespace App\Pricing;
```

```
# [NamespaceVisibility]
class DiscountCalculator
{
    ... methods ...
}
```

```
namespace App\Controllers;
```

```
$calculator = new DiscountCalculator();
```



```
namespace App\Pricing;

class DiscountCalculator
{
    # [NamespaceVisibility]
    public function calculate(): int
    {
    }

    public function anotherMethod(): void
    {
    }
}
```

```
class Person
{
    # [TestTag]
    public function setId(int $id): void
    {...}

    public function getName(): string
    {...}
}
```

```
interface Mailer {...}
```

```
// Implementations...
```

```
class MailgunMailer implements Mailer {...}
```

```
class PhpMailer implements Mailer {...}
```

```
class PasswordResetService {  
    public function __construct(  
        Mailer $mailer,  
    ) { ... }  
}
```



```
class PasswordResetService {  
    public function __construct(  
        MailgunMailer $mailer,  
    ) {...}  
}
```



```
# [InjectableVersion]
interface Mailer {...}
```

// Implementations...

```
class MailgunMailer implements Mailer {...}
```

```
class PhpMailer implements Mailer {...}
```

```
# [InjectableVersion]
```

```
interface Mailer {...}
```

```
class MailgunMailer implements Mailer {...}
```

```
class PasswordResetService {  
    public function __construct(  
        Mailer $mailer,  
    ) {...}  
}
```



```
class PasswordResetService {  
    public function __construct(  
        MailgunMailer $mailer,  
    ) {...}  
}
```

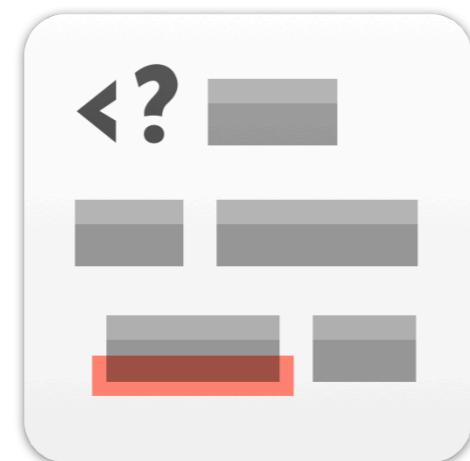


Definition

<https://github.com/DaveLiddament/php-language-extensions>



<https://github.com/DaveLiddament/phpstan-php-language-extensions>



<https://github.com/DaveLiddament/php-language-extensions>

```
examples
├── callableFrom
├── friend
├── injectableVersion
├── namespaceVisibility
├── package
└── sealed
└── testTag
    ├── testTagOnConstructor.php
    ├── testTagOnConstructorIgnoredInTestClass.php
    ├── testTagOnConstructorIgnoredInTestNamespace.php
    ├── testTagOnMethod.php
    ├── testTagOnMethodIgnoredInTestClass.php
    ├── testTagOnMethodIgnoredInTestNamespace.php
    ├── testTagOnStaticMethod.php
    ├── testTagOnStaticMethodIgnoredInTestClass.php
    └── testTagOnStaticMethodIgnoredInTestNamespace.php
```

```
src
└── CallableFrom.php
```

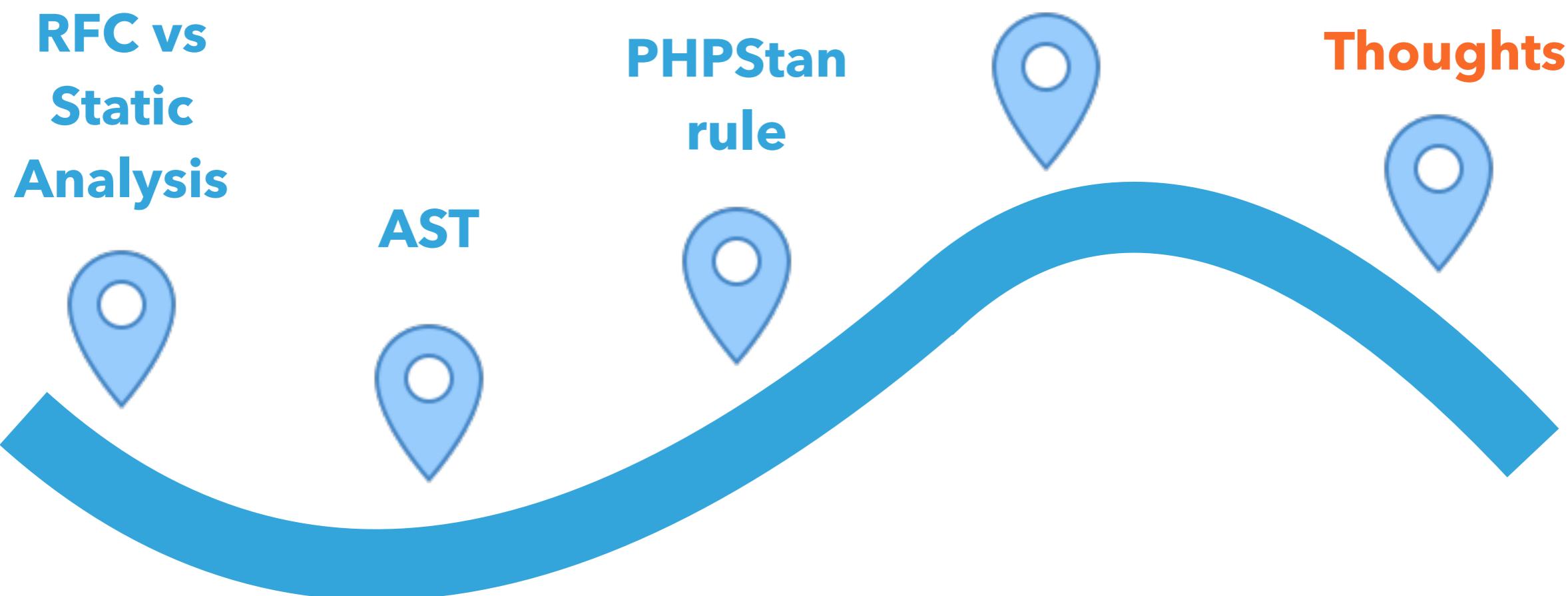
**RFC vs
Static
Analysis**

AST

**PHPStan
rule**

**PHP Extension
Library**

Thoughts



SYNTACTIC SUGAR

SECURITY

PERFORMANCE

NEW FEATURES

**COMMUNICATING
INTENTION**

OVERLAP

SYNTACTIC SUGAR

SECURITY

PERFORMANCE

NEW FEATURES

**COMMUNICATING
INTENTION**

public

protected

private

final

abstract

readonly

type declarations **Friend**

type hints



Sealed

NamespaceVisibility

InjectableVersion

AUTOMATE CHECKS FOR VIOLATIONS

Try out ideas...

Today

```
# [Friend(TextMessageQueueProcessor::class)]  
class TextMessageSender  
{
```

}

PHP 9.0+ ?

```
class TextMessageSender  
    friend TextMessageQueueProcessor
```

{

}

never return type (added in PHP 8.1)

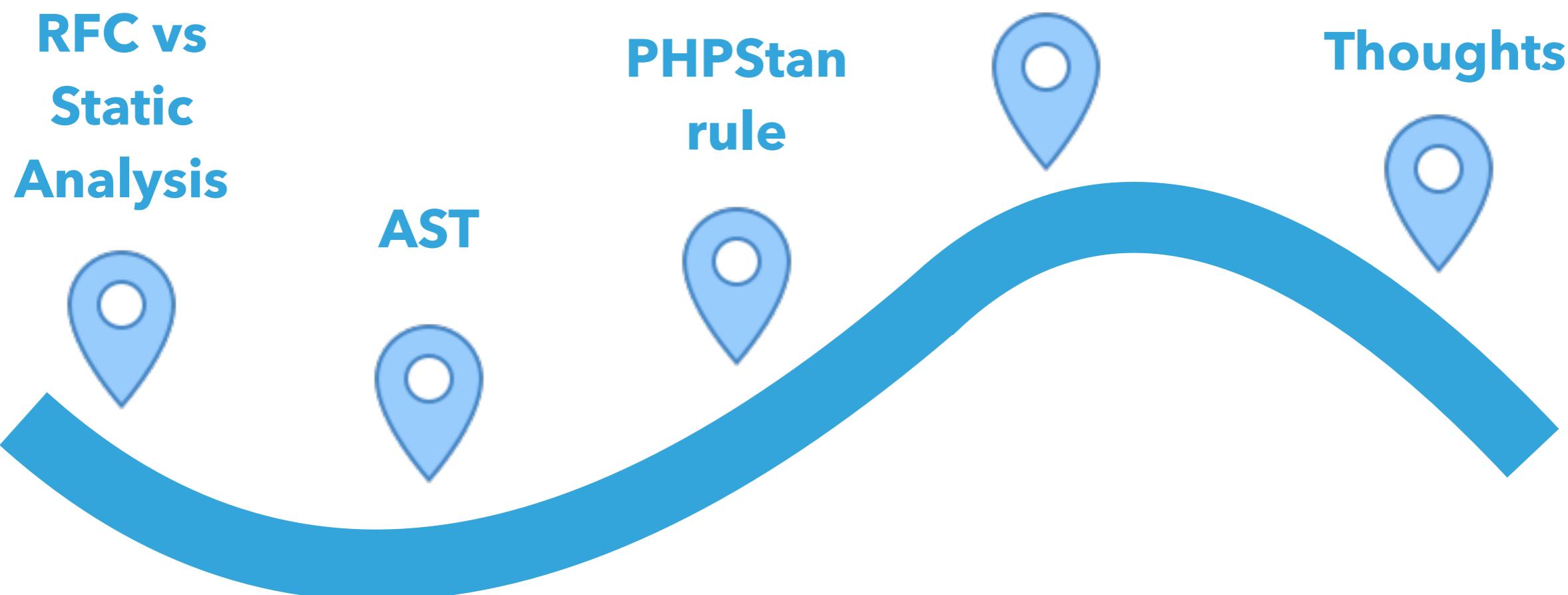
**RFC vs
Static
Analysis**

AST

**PHPStan
rule**

**PHP Extension
Library**

Thoughts



Custom static analysis rules allows developers to:

- ▶ Automatically enforce project conventions
- ▶ Create new language features

Thank you for listening

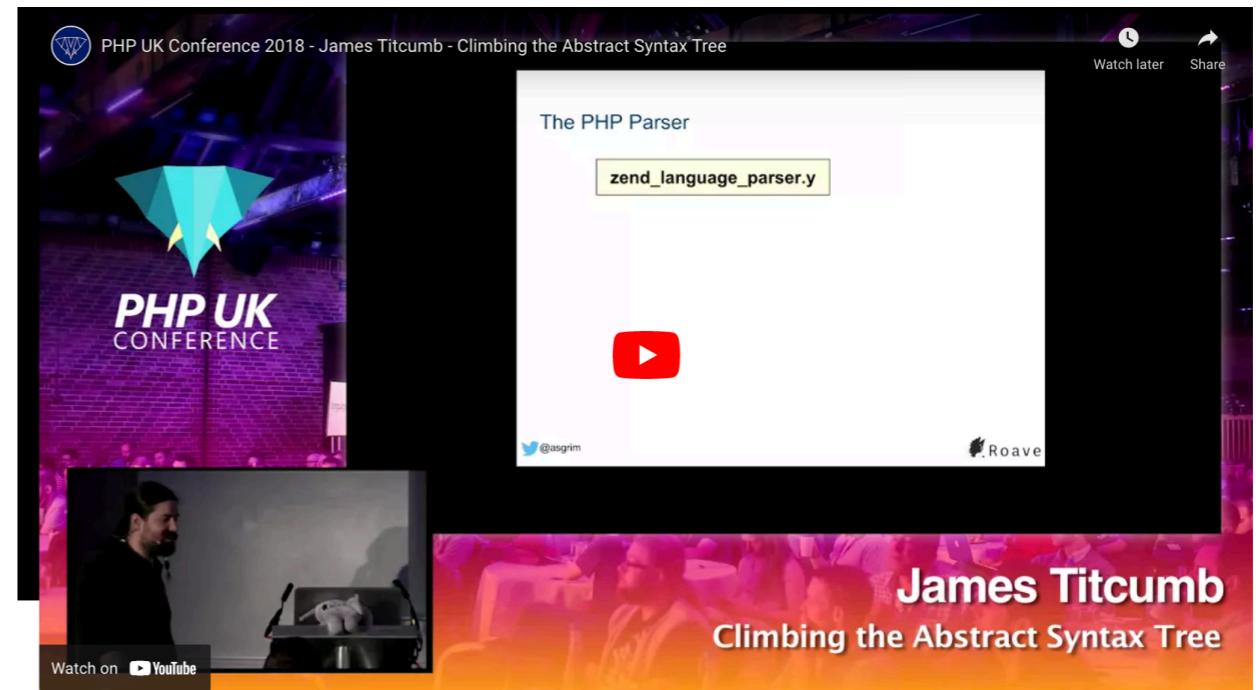
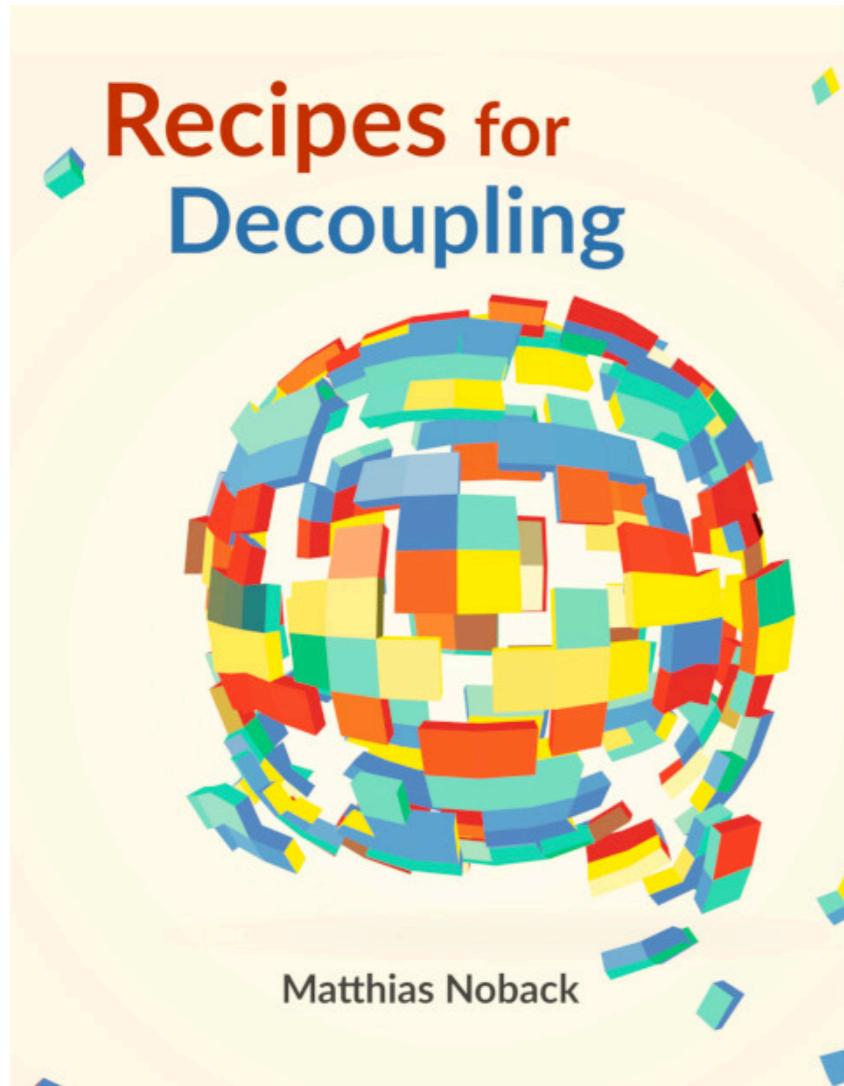


Dave Liddament

@daveliddament

Further information

<https://phpstan.org/developing-extensions/rules>



Enforce project standards...

- EntityManager can only be used in a Repository class
- Repository methods must follow convention:
 - **persist** rather than **save** or **update**
 - **findx** method returns an entity or null
 - **getx** method returns an entity and never null