## E.F. Schumacher Small is Decutiful

#### A STUDY OF ECONOMICS AS IF PEOPLE MATTERED

E.F. Schumacher Small is Beautiful

## Small Is Beautiful

A talk on code as if people mattered

A talk on code as if economics mattered

**@KevlinHenney** 

Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

The Report of the Brundtland Commission

## E.F. Schumacher Small is Beautiful

## For every activity there is a certain appropriate scale.



To be, or not to be: that is the question: Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, Or to take arms against a sea of troubles, And by opposing end them?

> William Shakespeare Hamlet

**Continuing existence or cessation of** existence: those are the scenarios. Is it more empowering mentally to work towards an accommodation of the downsizings and negative outcomes of adversarial circumstance, or would it be a greater enhancement of the bottom line to move forwards to a challenge to our current difficulties, and, by making a commitment to opposition, to effect their demise?

> Tom Burton Long Words Bother Me

### **Continuing existence or cessation of existence:** those are the more empow to work towa accommodat downsizings outcomes of circumstance a greater enh the bottom li forwards to a

our current d by making a opposition, t demise? This is the monstrosity in love, lady, that the will is infinite, and the execution confined; that the desire is boundless, and the act a slave to limit.

> William Shakespeare Troilus and Cressida





#### The SALT OGY NEW ANTHOLOGY NEW WRITING 2013

THE BEST NEW WRITING FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SALT PRIZES

Edited by CHRIS HAMILTON-EMERY and JEN HAMILTON-EMERY A collection of flash-fictions from National Flash-Fiction Day 2013 Edited by Calum Kerr and Holly Howitt

Scraps

Participant in the second

ELVI.



WILEY SERIES IN SOFTWARE DESIGN PATTERNS

#### PATTERN-ORIENTED SOFTWARE ARCHITECTURE

**On Patterns and Pattern Languages** 



#### Volume 5

Frank Buschmann Kevlin Henney Douglas C. Schmidt

## At some level the style becomes the substance.

## Beautiful Code

×

X

2

27

3

3

3

X

Leading Programmers Explain How They Think



O'REILLY"

## The Practice of Programming

+

ADDISON-WESLEY PROFESSIONAL COMPUTING SERIES

Brian W. Kernighan Rob Pike

Simplicity Clarity Generality

## The Practice of Programming

#### Brian W. Kernighan Rob Pike

/\* grep: search for regexp in file \*/
int grep(char \*regexp, FILE \*f, char \*name)
{

int n, nmatch; char buf[BUFSIZ];

```
nmatch = 0;
```

```
while (fgets(buf, sizeof buf, f) != NULL) {
    n = strlen(buf);
    if (n > 0 && buf[n-1] == '\n')
        buf[n-1] = '\0';
    if (match(regexp, buf)) {
        nmatch++;
        if (name != NULL)
```

printf("%s:", name);

```
printf("%s\n", buf);
```

return nmatch;

}

/\* matchhere: search for regexp at beginning of text \*/
int matchhere(char \*regexp, char \*text)

```
if (regexp[0] == '\0')
    return 1;
```

- if (regexp[0] == '\$' && regexp[1] == '\0')
   return \*text == '\0';
- if (\*text!='\0' && (regexp[0]=='.' || regexp[0]==\*text))
   return matchhere(regexp+1, text+1);

return 0;

ł

/\* match: search for regexp anywhere in text \*/
int match(char \*regexp, char \*text)

}

£

/\* matchstar: search for c\*regexp at beginning of text \*/
int matchstar(int c, char \*regexp, char \*text)

(i = 6)         LD H H         39 67           (i = 5)         LD B H         6 1           (i = 6)         LD B H         254 18           (i = 6)         LD B H         4 28           (i = 6)         LD C H         126           (i = 6)         LD C H         127           (i = 6)         LD C H         128           (i = 6)         LD C H         120           (i = 10)         HI H         128           (i = 11)         I = 11         121         121           (i = 11)         I = 12         123         231           (i = 11)         I = 12         123         231           (i = 11)         I = 12         123         231           (i = 11)         I = 12         123	LINING AT 205 168 64 EXX: 217 LD A C 121 RET 201 IRIVER 163559 LD B H 6 5 (66) LD HL NN 33 159 67 INC HL 345 156 8 INC HL 345 166 EXX 217 INC HL 245 166 EXX 217 INC HL 245 166 INC HL 345 166 I	CP N 254 148 JP NC DIS 48 28 CALL STR 205 187 64 CP N 254 0 JP Z DIS 40 28 CP N 254 1 JP NZ DIS 32 17 LD A D 122 CP N 254 1 JP NZ DIS 32 12 CALL ALIST 205 141 66 LD A E 123 CP N 254 82 JP C DIS 56 19 CP N 254 82 JP C DIS 56 19 CP N 254 82 JP C DIS 56 19 CP N 254 126 JP NC DIS 48 15 POP AF 241 POP AF 241 POP AF 241 DEC D 21 JP NZ DIS 32 210 RET 201 LD A D 122 CP N 254 1 CALL NZ ALIST 196 141 6 JP DIS 24 241 POP AF 241 POF AF 24	SCF 55 RET 201 POP BC 193 POP HL 225 DJNZ DIS 16 216 AND A 167 RET 201 SCORE 16793 PUSH HL 229 (153) PUSH BC 197 ( 65) PUSH BC 197 LD D L 85 LD HL NN 33 64 64 CALL NN 205 36 7 CALL PSC 205 10 67 LD A B 120 ADD A M 132 LD C A 79 POP AF 241 CALL PSC 205 10 67 POP HL 225 CALL INC 205 24 67 JP NC DIS 48 1 ADD A B 128 LD C A 79 POP HL 225 CALL INC 205 24 67 JP NC DIS 48 1 ADD A B 128 LD C A 79 POP HL 225 CALL INC 205 24 67 JP NC DIS 48 1 SUB B 144 PUSH HL 229 PUSH AF 245 CALL CHEMV 205 247 66 CALL CHEMV 205 24 67 JP NC DIS 48 2 INC B 4 INC B 4 IN
	TEST LIST 17026 LD HL NN 33 70 64	CRLL STR2 205 191 64 CP 0 254 0 JP NZ DIS 32 25 CRLL CHEMV 205 247 66 LD L E 107 CRLL MOVE 205 247 66 CRLL CHEMV 205 247 66 CRLL TL 205 130 66 JP Z DIS 40 10 LD HL(NN) 42 128 64	LD HL NN 33 60 64



end

begin 644 FLOPPY.7Z M-WJ\KR<<``/\$P0TX"0,``````!=``````):A<QL`=0%+!`0%F,\C).-Z M;\$=\*5]JZ\`-6,?XTW!KSPJ'1-6G\$ARFF9!HS3,#)')1N7\*D;8SS;"#0\60AE  $M-[CNTB+D/0Z9#=:_9P2KN#|MYXCNQEJ4BH1SX>/1=Y.`CHNM%WS|8U`$`F]A$ ME2F#R\_9K`29FA1V18\#-B:U'D\*!T7:#C@1E\F9V(:ADLP`IM:\_8Y\*V'DZ8&R M^3E%4FY\*)6'@1\[,#&`C8,]([!@(HMOQ"W\G<F[88BP>-@<]WC\*%UH\*N^X%-M[WY\$\$I90UY2)N@1,XML;SK@NNA3&38?K<%CX1W4"L5!5W2S395P18V+\0=V"</pre> MJWNAR%@(\*3\_.:<P-:G1Z0[%@A5\*\*6J&Y3)!<5HFF0B,HLD,J\S:U./[EM:-X MYP8KC) <= B(; IT": 8((FP%\_\*K904!T?\7\4K,+.C040HG9SC[0["\!W"M%\_L^ M?%\$0.4L.X3.G&\+FC?Y;9(`J+U".:ZCS>H,60^&21\_\_MUPNQBLD&>EBP2%S< M%:(#KYU5?5E?R;S>).`S)AMFCK^>;\$X&3\C4H)>2V\_I+I3G29!?CM^@P'A1\ M;>P"I59\*Q3Y71<^834CZT/<14KJ.U\*`42>PDP%N^.":ED\/)96K[\*YB5#=NW M;.JWHJ'C-GI!UCI1&7"#DB;Z4VE'/\$W7/X^=\$<H\_+>Z1MR9-NU":DB8Q:5=>  $M1VA)TS&70ZZ:IKAN+KC:P=4?76V>:H:24^AT4S;JOY)@JWNMC>`AUI-K)+$ M,Y2F890+C'`)T1\$B258[[S\F6D>&=F>2@"56SM+N&<\B+\Z\_G-H`/JTFP\$``</pre> MC[496E4YX;VB/E9E?DCTT'16@YP\$;LR]V>B\*K9<M\_R[KFAVZSK\$G&%Q9ANEF</pre> M4EB^Z7:L6>3E6P4(^<?:K?S[4BMTS1Y;(\$+YW5,]^"ED"3N`RRILW[4[\,2] M+E^J#SY+9D\*0\$P[\_\$)/X<7A9^`0-\_Y4H1@^I\_'S>^YHP+E;`CX7S@X'`9<0E M4\_CUD38Q!:6P[F\_!<\$U'#-&1\$:JM8!VZSK\$G&%Q9ANEF4EB^Z7:L\*"W<Q``! M!`8``0F#"0`'"P\$``2,#`0\$%70``&``,U@"```@\*`3?;3\$L```4!\$1T`0@!O 11 2 2 2 2



OF THE

1980

#### Lions' Commentary on UNIX° 6th Edition with Source Code

John Lions

Foreword by Dennis Ritchie

There have always been fairly severe size constraints on the Unix operating system and its software. Given the partially antagonistic desires for reasonable efficiency and expressive power, the size constraint has encouraged not only economy but a reasonable effaction of design.

> Dennis Ritchie and Ken Thompson "The UNIX Time-Sharing System", CACM

Almost 19 years ago, when I was Byte magazine's executive editor and Web developer, I received the following email:

From: Ward Cunningham Subject: wiki Date: May 22, 1996 at 11:23:10 AM PDT To: Jon Udell

Jon -- So what do you think of wiki? I put it up a year and a half ago when HTML authoring tools were in short supply. I think it has held up pretty well, though I suppose its days are numbered. Still, there is something about it we call WikiNature that is in short supply on the net and in computers in general. Regards. -- Ward

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
PerlInterpreter
# PerlInterpreter must be the first line of the file.
#
# Copyright (c) 1995, Cunningham & Cunningham, Inc.
#
# This program has been generated by the HyperPerl
# generator. The source hypertext can be found
# at http://c2.com/cgi/wikibase. This program belongs
# to Cunningham & Cunningham, Inc., is to be used
# only by agreement with the owner, and then only
# with the understanding that the owner cannot be
# responsible for any behaviour of the program or
# any damages that it may cause.
InitialComments
```

```
# InitialComments
print "Content-type: text/html\n\n";
$DBM = "/usr/ward/$ScriptName";
dbmopen(%db, $DBM, 0666) | &AbortScript("can't open $DBM");
$CookedInput{browse} && &HandleBrowse;
$CookedInput{links} && &HandleLinks;
$CookedInput(search) && &HandleSearch;
dbmclose (%db);
if ($ENV{REQUEST METHOD} eq POST) {
# &DumpBinding(*CookedInput);
# &DumpBinding(*old);
# &DumpBinding(*ENV);
                                                WikiInHvperPerl
```

As it turns out that wiki was less fragile than I feared -- and its days were more numerous than Ward had expected. But on Feb. 1, 2015, this notice appeared:

Wiki Wiki System Notice

After twenty years of service I'm pleased to announce a complete rewrite of wiki as a single page application with a distributed database which will last us for at least 20 years, maybe 200.

see http://c2.fed.wiki.org

E.F. Schumacher Today, we suffer from an almost universal idolatry of giantism. It is therefore necessary to insist on the virtues of smallness where this applies.

A STUDY OF ECONOMICS A AS IF PEOPLE MATTERED

## Software development does *not* have economies of scale. Development has *diseconomies* of scale.

Allan Kelly Beyond Projects http://www.slideshare.net/allankellynet/no-prokects-beyond-projects-refreshed-version



Allan Kelly Beyond Projects http://www.slideshare.net/allankellynet/no-prokects-beyond-projects-refreshed-version E.F. Schumacher

I say, therefore, that we think *with* or *through* ideas and that what we call thinking is generally the application of pre-existing ideas to a given situation or set of facts.



#### The Timeless Way of Building



-

#### Christopher Alexander

# DESIGN AFTER MODE K

## A city is not a tree Christopher Alexander

JOHN THACKARA

The tree of my title is not a green tree with leaves. It is the name of an abstract structure.

Both the tree and the semilattice are ways of thinking about how a large collection of many small systems goes to make up a large and complex system.



The semilattice is potentially a much more complex and subtle structure than a tree.

The reality of today's social structure is thick with overlap the systems of friends and acquaintances form a semilattice, not a tree.

JOHN THACKARA







#### View Definition: Conway's Law

#### Conway's Law

prov. The rule that the organization of the software and the organization of the software team will be congruent; originally stated as "If you have four groups working on a compiler, you'll get a 4-pass compiler".

This was originally promulgated by Melvin Conway, an early proto-hacker who wrote an assembler for the Burroughs 220 called SAVE. The name `SAVE' didn't stand for anything; it was just that you lost fewer card decks and listings because they all had SAVE written on them.

## IT's effort to satisfy its various (and sometimes conflicting) business constituencies created a set of Byzantine, overlapping systems that might satisfy individual units for a while but did not advance the company's business as a whole.

David Schpilberg, Steve Berez, Rudy Puryear and Sachin Shah "Avoiding the Alignment Trap in Information Technology" *MIT Sloan Management Review* http://sloanreview.mit.edu/article/avoiding-the-alignment-trap-in-it/


## Aligning a poorly performing IT organization to the right business objectives still won't get the objectives accomplished.

## **Richard F Connell**

David Schpilberg, Steve Berez, Rudy Puryear and Sachin Shah "Avoiding the Alignment Trap in Information Technology" *MIT Sloan Management Review* http://sloanreview.mit.edu/article/avoiding-the-alignment-trap-in-it/ Cargo cult programming is a style of computer programming characterized by the ritual inclusion of code or program structures that serve no real purpose.

Cargo cult programming can also refer to the results of applying a design pattern or coding style blindly without understanding the reasons behind that design principle.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cargo\_cult\_programming

#### FizzBuzzEnterpriseEdition

#### build passing

Enterprise software marks a special high-grade class of software that makes careful use of relevant software architecture design principles to build particularly customizable and extensible solutions to real problems. This project is an example of how the popular FizzBuzz game might be built were it subject to the high quality standards of enterprise software.

#### FizzBuzz

FizzBuzz is a game that has gained in popularity as a programming assignment to weed out nonprogrammers during job interviews. The object of the assignment is less about solving it correctly according to the below rules and more about showing the programmer understands basic, necessary tools such as if -/ else -statements and loops. The rules of FizzBuzz are as follows:

For numbers 1 through 100,

- if the number is divisible by 3 print Fizz;
- if the number is divisible by 5 print Buzz;
- if the number is divisible by 3 and 5 (15) print FizzBuzz;
- else, print the number.

## FizzBuzzEnterpriseEdition / src / main / java / com / seriouscompany / business / java / fizzbuzz / packagenamingpackage / interfaces / factories / +

Merge #127		2 comments 📁
Dmitry-Me authored on 22 Jul 2014		latest commit aad80defc4 🔂
FizzBuzzOutputStrategyFactory.java	Adding a factory to create the output strategy so that we never get I	a year ago
FizzBuzzSolutionStrategyFactory.j	Problem solution should be instantiated through factory class to make	2 years ago
IntegerPrinterFactory.java	Move sources	2 years ago
IntegerStringReturnerFactory.java	Move sources	2 years ago
IsEvenlyDivisibleStrategyFactory.java	Move sources	2 years ago
OutputGenerationContextVisitorFac	Merge #127	8 months ago
StringPrinterFactory.java	Move sources	2 years ago
StringStringReturnerFactory.java	Move sources	2 years ago

I have yet to see any problem, however complicated, which, when you looked at it in the right way, did not become still more complicated.

Anderson's Law



https://twitter.com/pwim/status/549463179084853248





Jun end 11; L M DON 32 := TDB.T ENTIER 32S ((1.0/C M LSB DON) \* 336 G M INFO DERIVE (T ALG. E DCN) if L M DON 32 > 32767 then P M DERIVE (T ALG.E DON) := 16#7FFF#; elsif L M DON 32 < -32768 then P M DERIVE (T ALG.E DON) := 16#8000#; else P M DERIVE (T ALG.E DON) := UC 16S EN 16NS( TDB.T ENTIER 16S(L M DON 32)); end if; P M DERIVE (T ALG.E DOE) := UC 16S EN 16NS (TDB.T ENTIER 16S ((1.0/C M LSB DOE) \* G M INFO DERIVE (T ALG.E DOE) L M BV 32 := TDB.T ENTIER 32S ((1.0/C M LSB BV) \* G M INFO DERIVE (T ALG.E BV)); if L M BV 32 > 32767 then P M DERIVE (T ALG.E BV) := 16#7FFF#; elsif L M BV 32 < -32768 then P M DERIVE (? ALG.E BV) := .16#8000#; else P M DERIVE (T ALG.E BV) := UC 16S EN 16NS (TDB.T\_ENTIER\_16S (L M end if; P M DERIVE (T ALG.E BH) := UC 16S EN 16NS (TDB.T ENTIER 16S ((1.0/C M LSB BH) \* G M INFO DERIVE (T ALG.E BH))) end LIRE DERIVE; --\$finprocedure --- ( procedure LIRE SEUIL (P M SEUIL : out TDB.T ENTIER 16NS) is

--1

#### RUD, noun

- Rapid Unscheduled Disassembly
- Rocket science and amateur rocketry jargon that's acronymous, euphemistic and explosively self-explanatory

# The failure resulted in a loss of more than US\$370 million.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cluster\_(spacecraft)

## Knight Capital Group realized a \$460 million loss in 45 minutes.



The update to SMARS was intended to replace old, unused code referred to as "Power Peg" functionality that Knight hadn't used in 8-years.



Why code that had been dead for 8 years was still present in the code base is a mystery, but that's not the point.



In the first 45 minutes the market was open the Power Peg code received and processed 212 parent orders. As a result SMARS sent millions of child orders into the market resulting in 4 million transactions against 154 stocks for more than 397 million shares.



Um. What's the name of the word for things not being the same always. You know, I'm sure there is one. Isn't there?

There's must be a word for it... the thing that lets you know time is happening. Is there a word?

### Change.

Oh. I was afraid of that.

Neil Gaiman The Sandman Our task is not to find the maximum amount of content in a work of art.

Our task is to cut back content so that we can see the thing at all.

Susan Sontag



**Kevlin Henney** @KevlinHenney



We keep talking about incremental development; we don't talk enough about decremental development.

11:39 AM - 28 Nov 2014

**10** RETWEETS **4** FAVORITES

-h t7 +

https://twitter.com/KevlinHenney/status/538296211166740480

## empirical, adjective

- based on, concerned with, or verifiable by observation or experience rather than theory or pure logic
- pertaining to, or derived from, experience
- capable of being verified or disproved by observation or experiment

 $Concise \ Oxford \ English \ Dictionary \ \cdot \ Oxford \ English \ Dictionary \ \cdot \ Merriam-Webster's \ Collegiate \ Dictionary$ 

E.F. Schumacher There is wisdom in smallness if only on account of the smallness and patchiness of human knowledge, which relies on experiment far more than on understanding.

