

Things We Never Told Anyone About Functional Programming

Michael Sperber

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- software development with FP
- software architecture
- consulting
- software reviews
- training

www.active-group.de

funktionale-programmierung.de

Berlin
March 28/29

[https://www.theater-u34.de/
quartett/](https://www.theater-u34.de/quartett/)



- "Quartett" by Heiner Müller
- ACUD-Theater
- also Bremen, Apr 12

FP



What is it good for?

Functional Programming

**Build Software
Systems to
Fulfill
Requirements**



ICFP Papers and Events

Accepted Papers

★ Title

★ [Abstracting Effect Systems for Algebraic Effect Handlers](#)

[DOI](#)

★ [Abstract Interpreters: A Monadic Approach to Modular Verification](#)

[DOI](#) [Pre-print](#)

★ [A Coq Mechanization of JavaScript Regular Expression Semantics](#)

[Link to publication](#) [DOI](#) [Pre-print](#)

★ [Almost-Sure Termination by Guarded Refinement](#)

[DOI](#) [Pre-print](#)

ICFP 2024 Distinguished Paper

Snapshottable Stores*

CLÉMENT ALLAIN, Inria, France

BASILE CLÉMENT, OCamlPro, France

ALEXANDRE MOINE, Inria, France

GABRIEL SCHERER, Université Paris Cité, Inria, CNRS, IRIF, France

We say that an imperative data structure is *snapshottable* or *supports snapshots* if we can efficiently capture its current state, and restore a previously captured state to become the current state again. This is useful, for example, to implement backtracking search processes that update the data structure during search.

Inspired by a data structure proposed in 1978 by Baker, we present a *snapshottable store*, a bag of mutable references that supports snapshots. Instead of capturing and restoring an array, we can capture an arbitrary set of references (of any type) and restore all of them at once. This snapshottable store can be used as a building block to support snapshots for arbitrary data structures, by simply replacing all mutable references in the data structure by our store references. We present use-cases of a snapshottable store when implementing type-checkers and automated theorem provers.

“use-cases ... type-checkers and automated theorem provers”

S. L. Peyton Jones and J.-M. Eber

How to write a financial contract. 2001

combining together simpler contracts, such as D_1 , which in turn are formed from simpler contracts still, such as D_{11} , D_{12} .

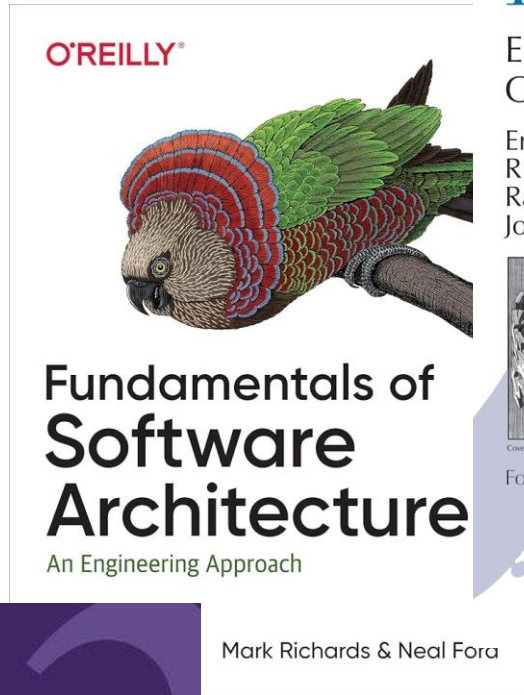
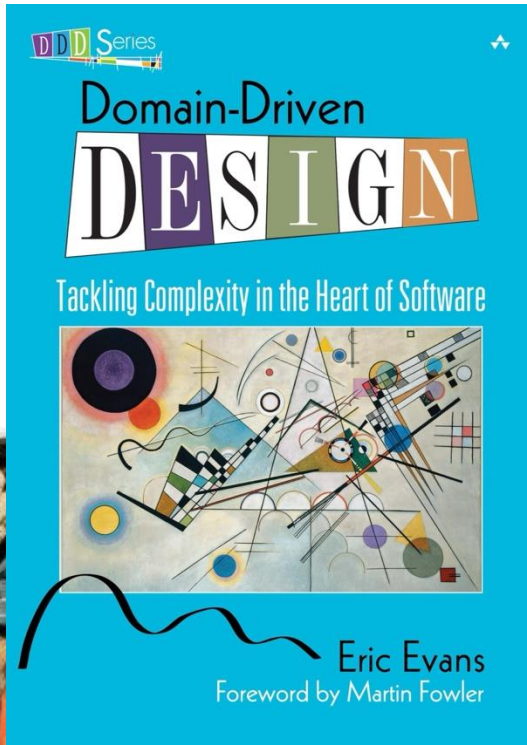
At this point, any red-blooded functional programmer should start to foam at the mouth, yelling “build a combinator library”. And indeed, that turns out to be not only possible, but tremendously beneficial.

The finance industry has an enormous vocabulary of jargon for typical com-

Build a
combinator
library!



FP



Design Patterns

Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software

Erich Gamma
Richard Helm
Ralph Johnson
John Vlissides



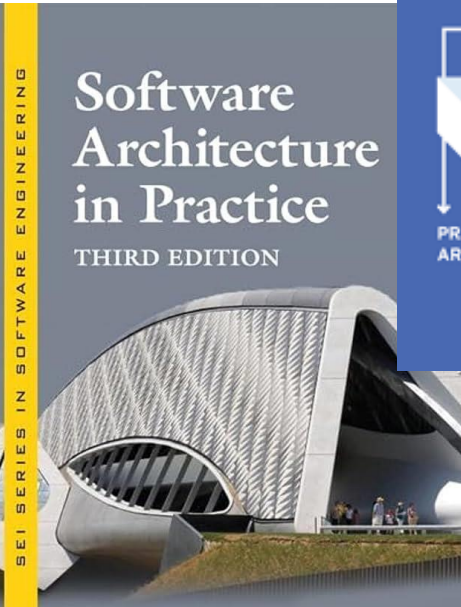
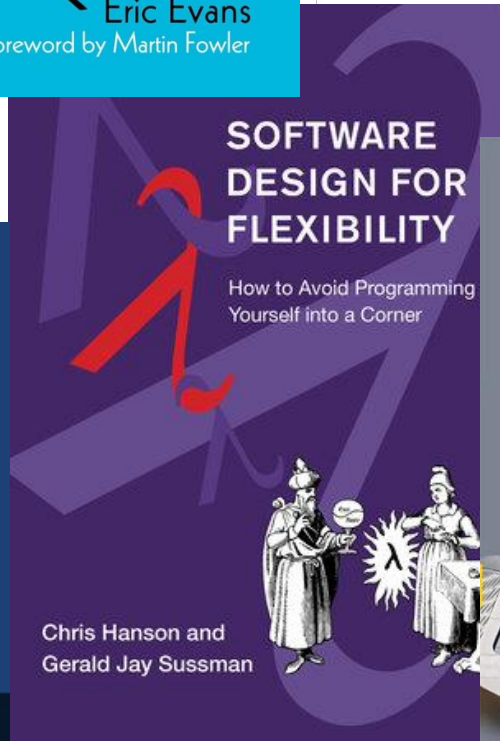
Cover art © 1994 XFL, Escher / Gordon Art - Baam - Holland. All rights reserved.

Foreword by Grady Booch



The **C4** model
for visualising software architecture

Simon Brown



Software Systems (for People)

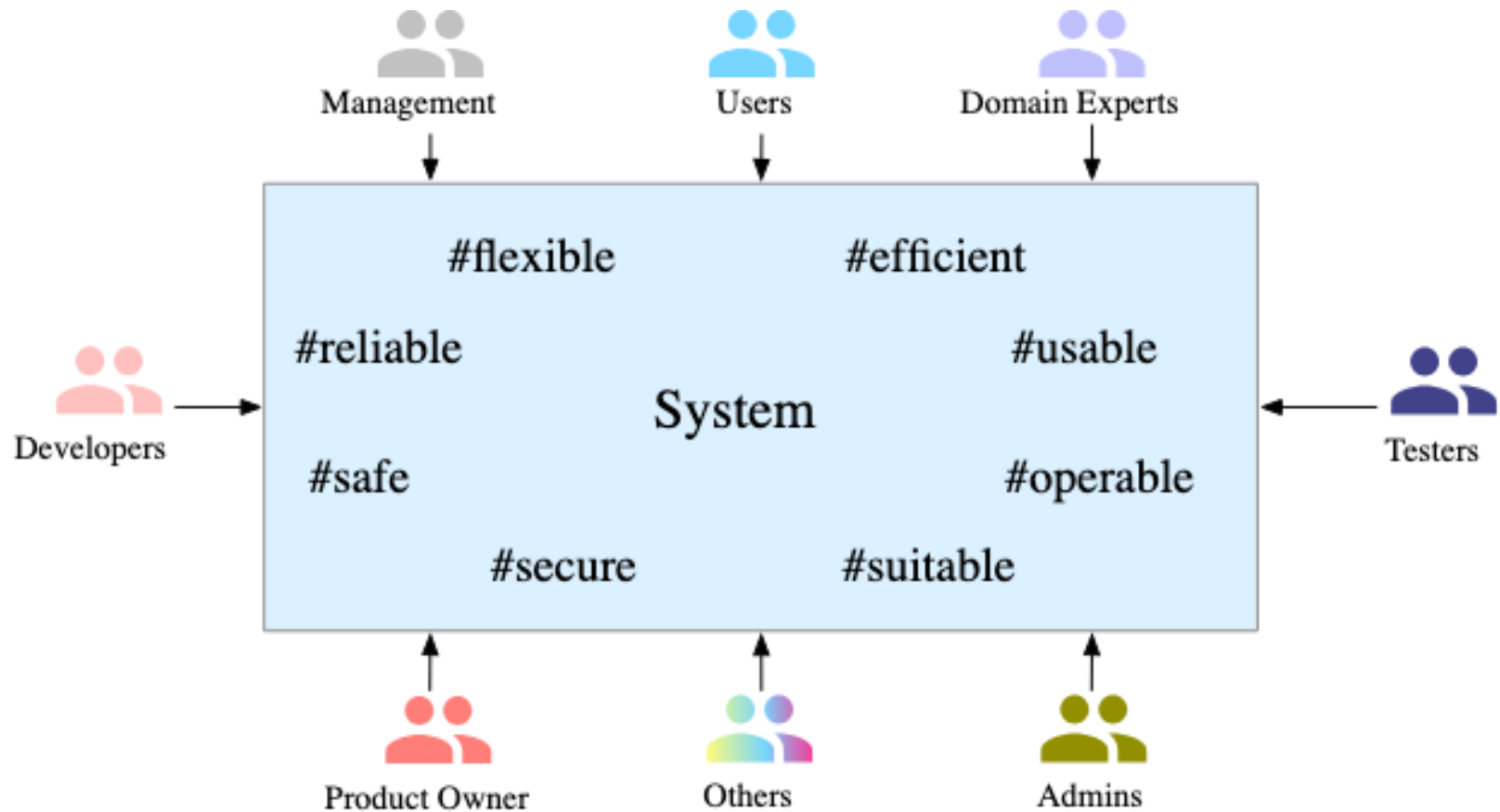
- fulfill (human) requirements
- make lives better
- programmed by people



What It Takes

- connecting requirements and software
- programming in the small
- programming in the *large* and in the *long*
- human activities around this

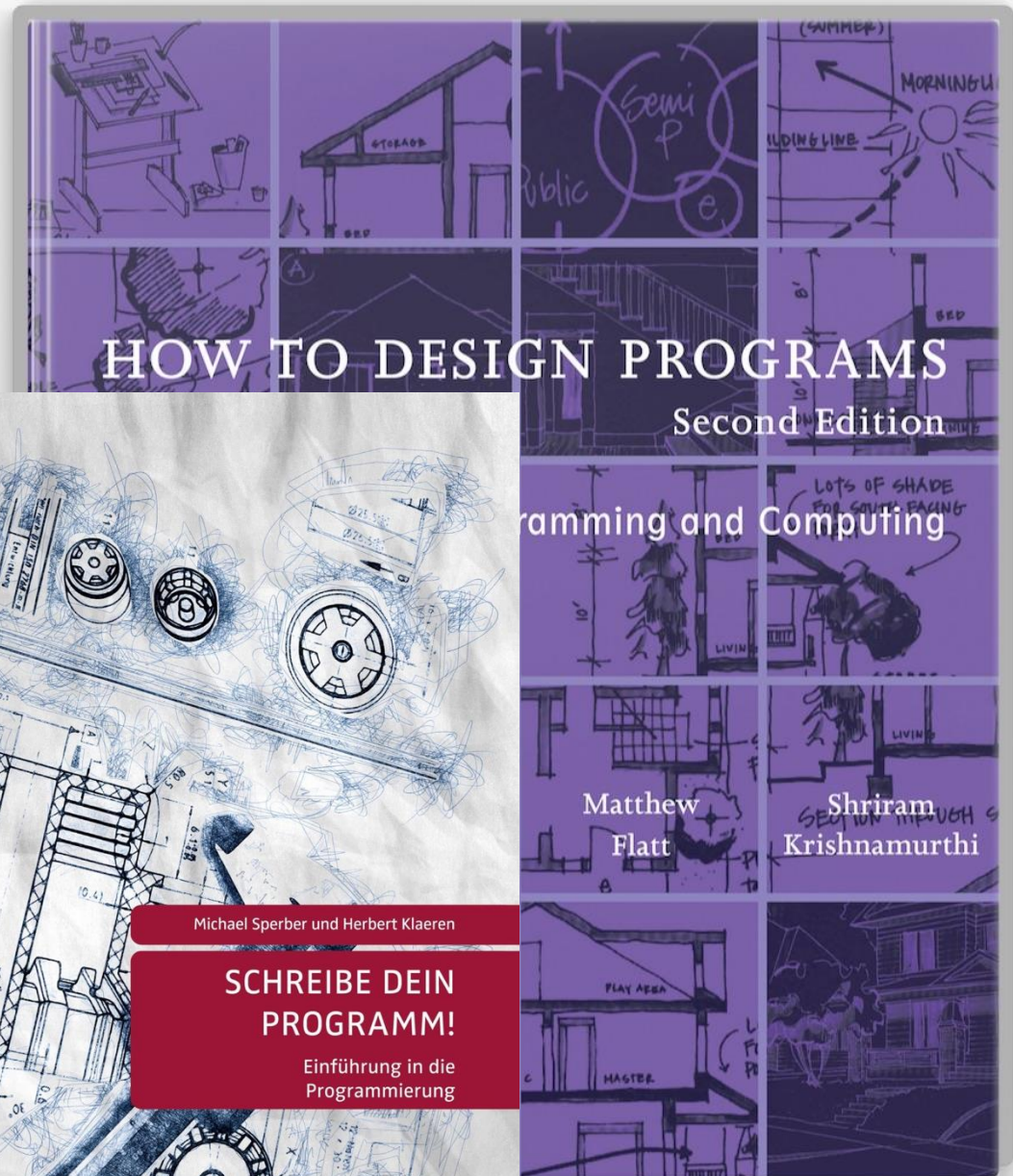
Software System Qualities




<https://quality.arc42.org/articles/arc42-quality-model>

(Functional) Requirements and Programming in the Small

- data
- functions



5 AM [Transmitting customised ads to set-top boxes with Erlang](#) 
Laura M. Castro (*University of A Coruña*)
Macías López (*University of A Coruña*)

5 AM [Haskell for XenClient](#) 
Matthias Görgens (*Citrix*)

12:05 PM [Functional Programming @ Ghent IT Valley](#) 
Romain Sloomakers (*Ghent IT Valley*)
Nicolas Trangez (*Ghent IT Valley*)


0 PM [From Streams to Functions \(and Back Again\)](#) 
Frank McCabe (*Starview*)

PM [Functional Big-Data Genomics](#) 
Ashish Agarwal (*New York University*)

PM [Using F# to Prove Stabilization of Biological Networks](#) 
Samin Ishtiaq (*Microsoft*)

PM [Developing an F# Bioinformatics Application with HTML5 Visualization](#) 
Adam Granicz (*IntelliFactory*)

PM [Developing Medical Software in Scala and Haskell](#) 
Stefan Wehr (*factis research*)

PM [Functional programs connected to the power grid](#) 
Sebastian Egner (*Entelios*)

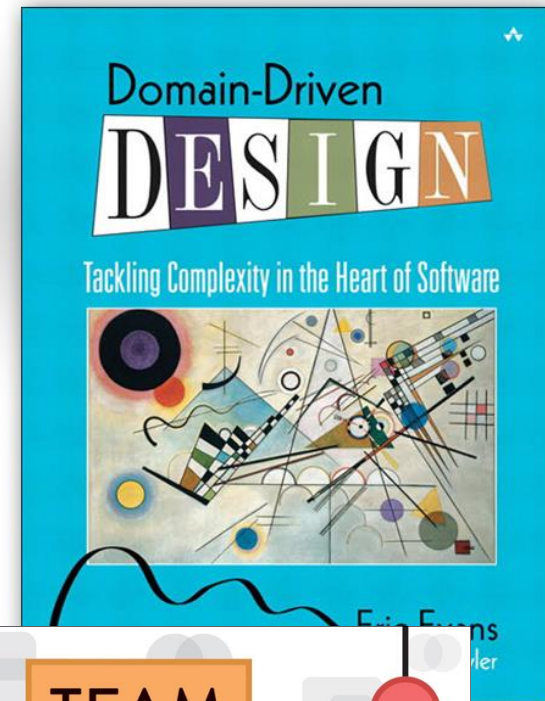
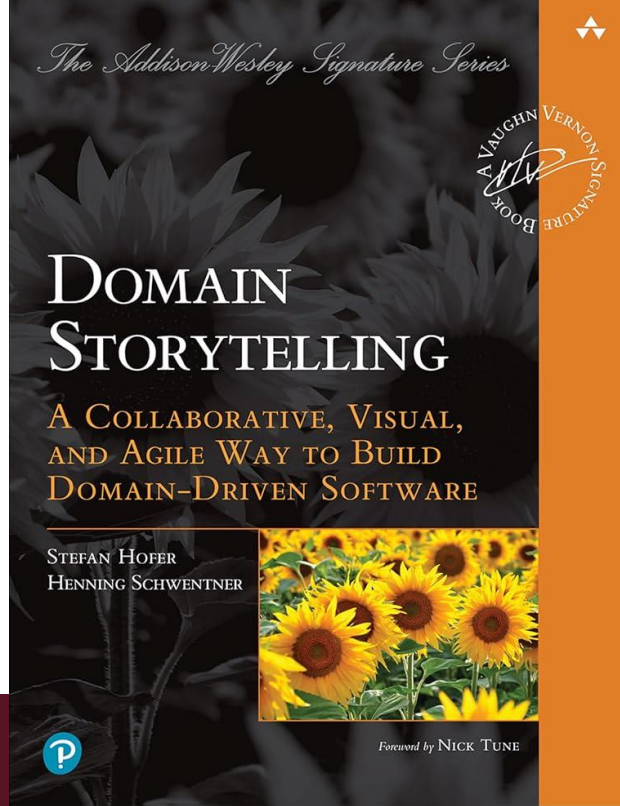
Programming in the *large* ... and in the *long*?



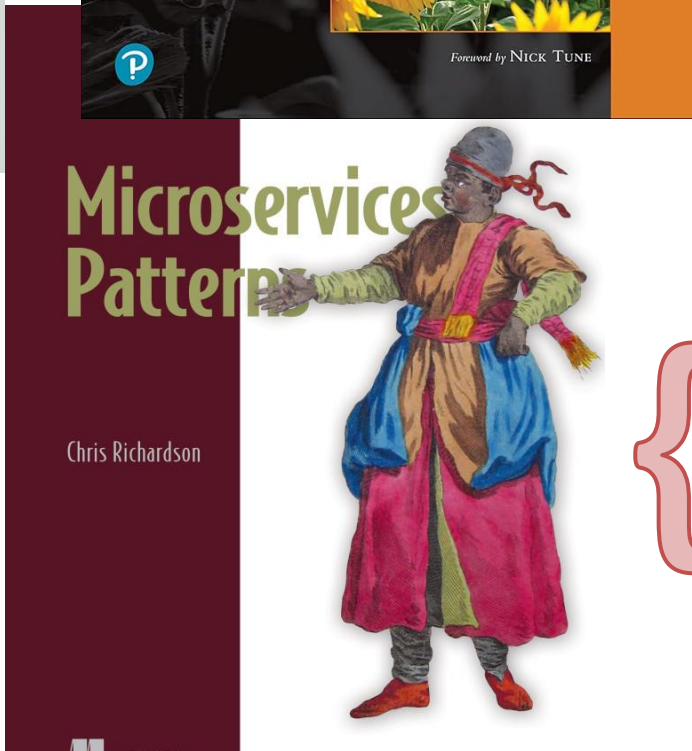
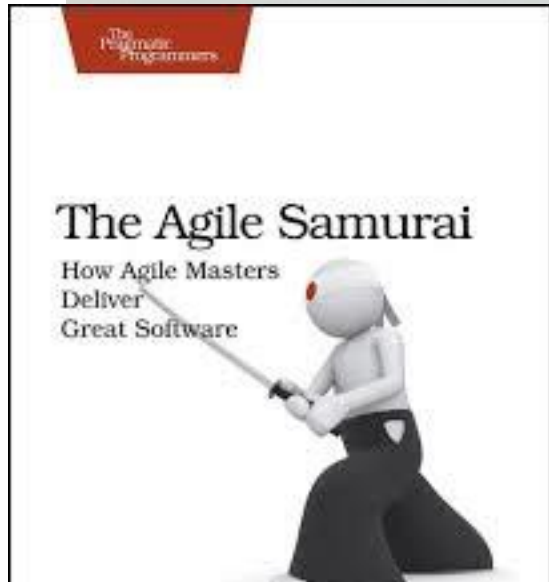
Human Activities



Elsewhere ...



{ O O P }

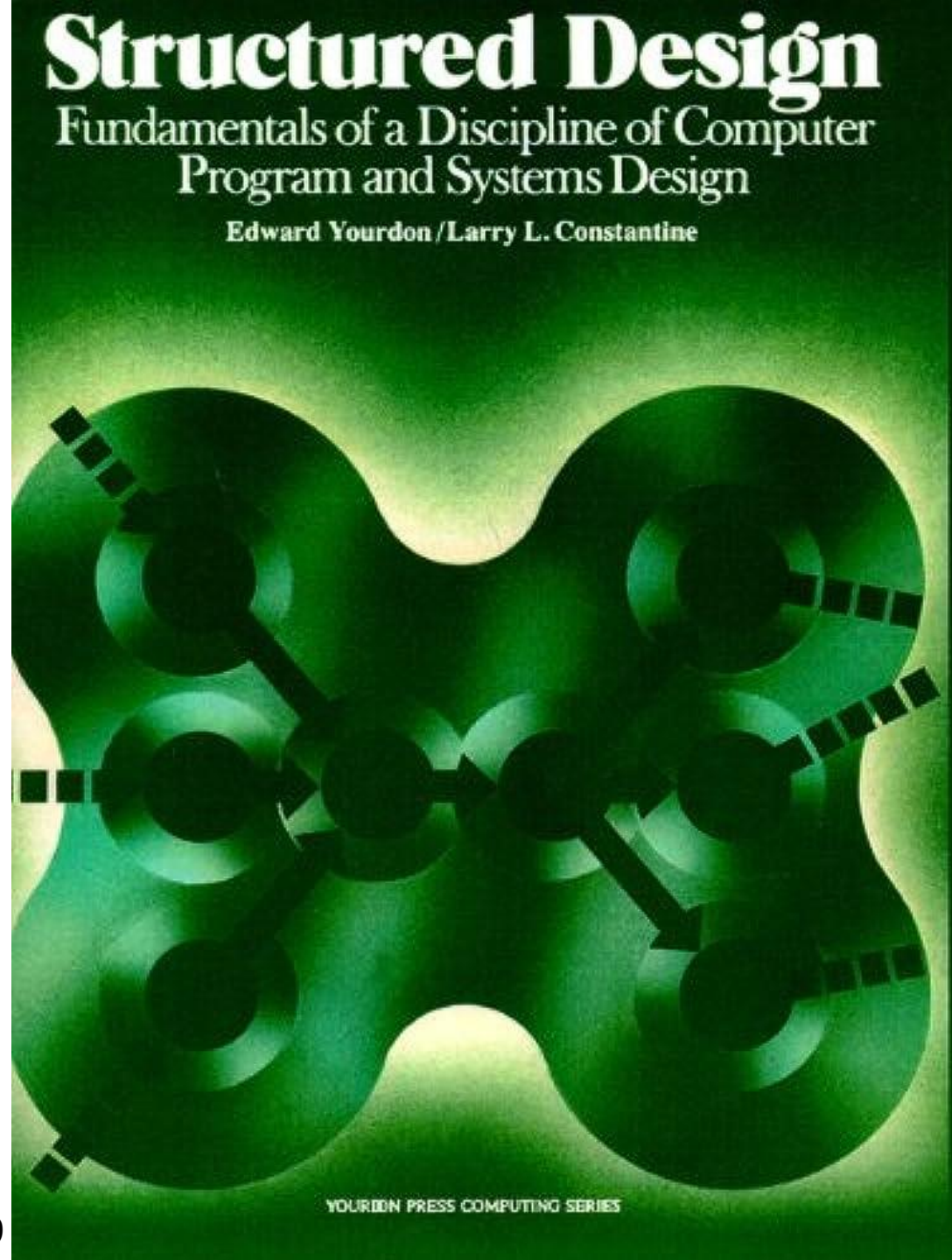


What It Takes

- connecting requirements and software ✓ ✗
- programming in the small ✓ ✓
- programming in the *large* and in the *long* ✓ ✗
- human activities around this ✗ ✗

Programming
in the Large and
in the Long

€ = Δ



1979

Evolutionary Software Quality



Functionality and Architecture

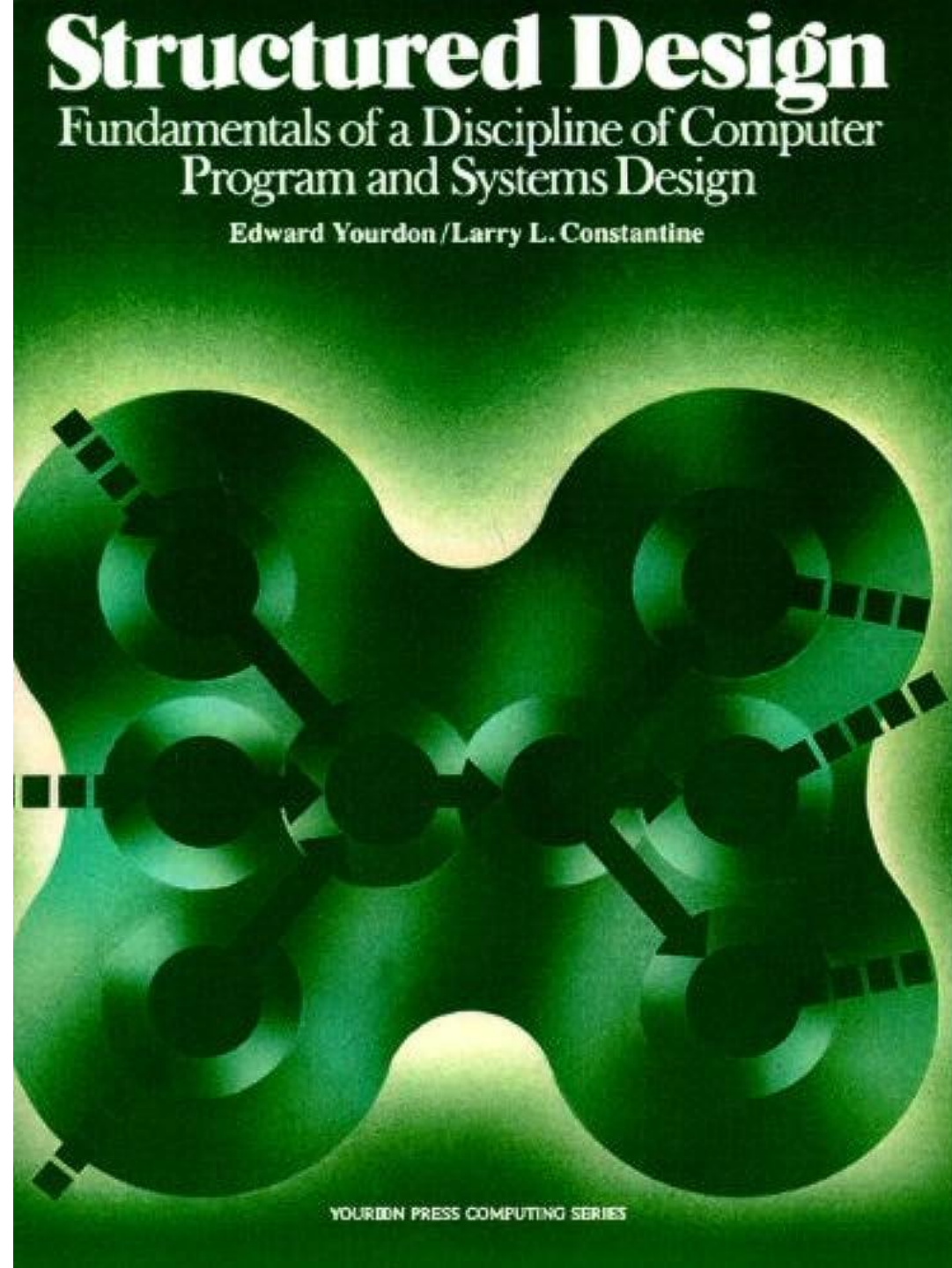
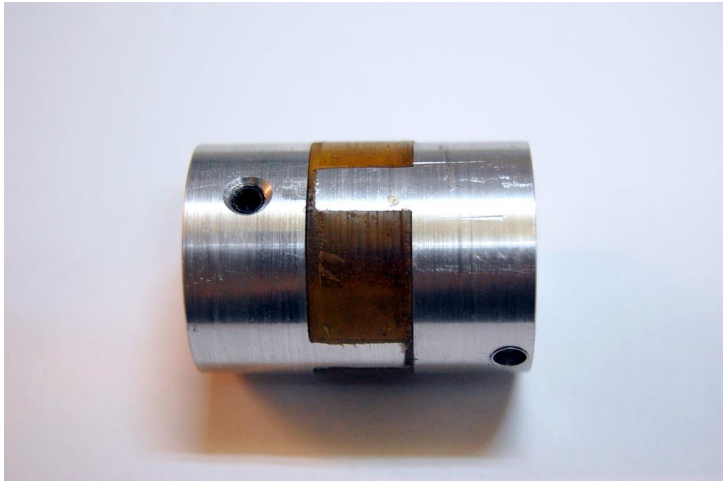
4.2. Functionality

Functionality is the ability of the system to do the work for which it was intended. Of all of the requirements, functionality has the strangest relationship to architecture.

First of all, functionality does not determine architecture. That is, given a set of required functionality, there is no end to the architectures you could create to satisfy that functionality. At the very least, you could divide up the functionality in any number of ways and assign the subpieces to different architectural elements.

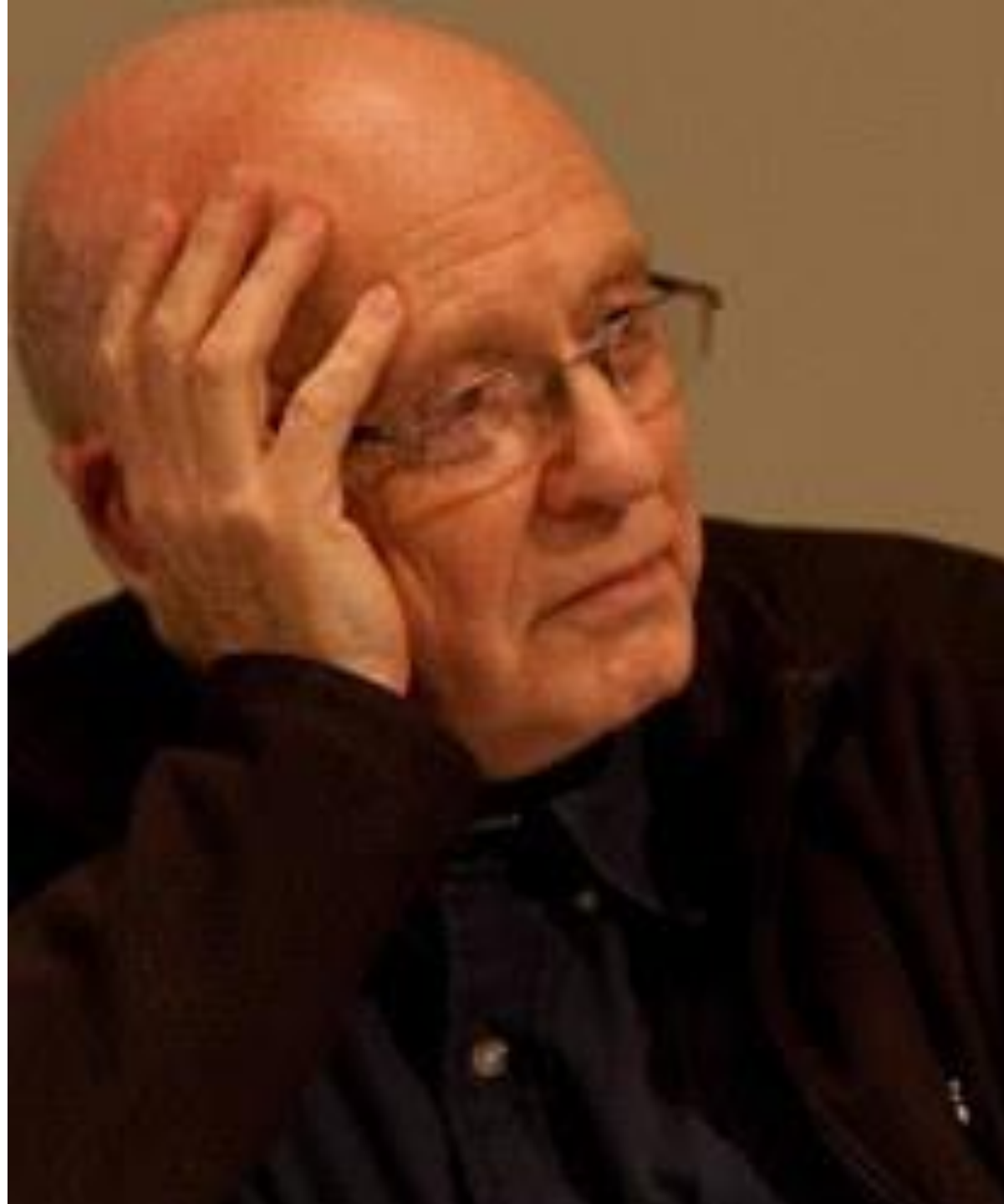
Programming
in the Large and
in the Long

€ = Δ



David Parnas (1972)

"We propose [...] that one begins with a list of difficult **design decisions** or design decisions which are likely to change. Each module is then designed to hide such a decision from the others.."



The Monolith is Unmodular

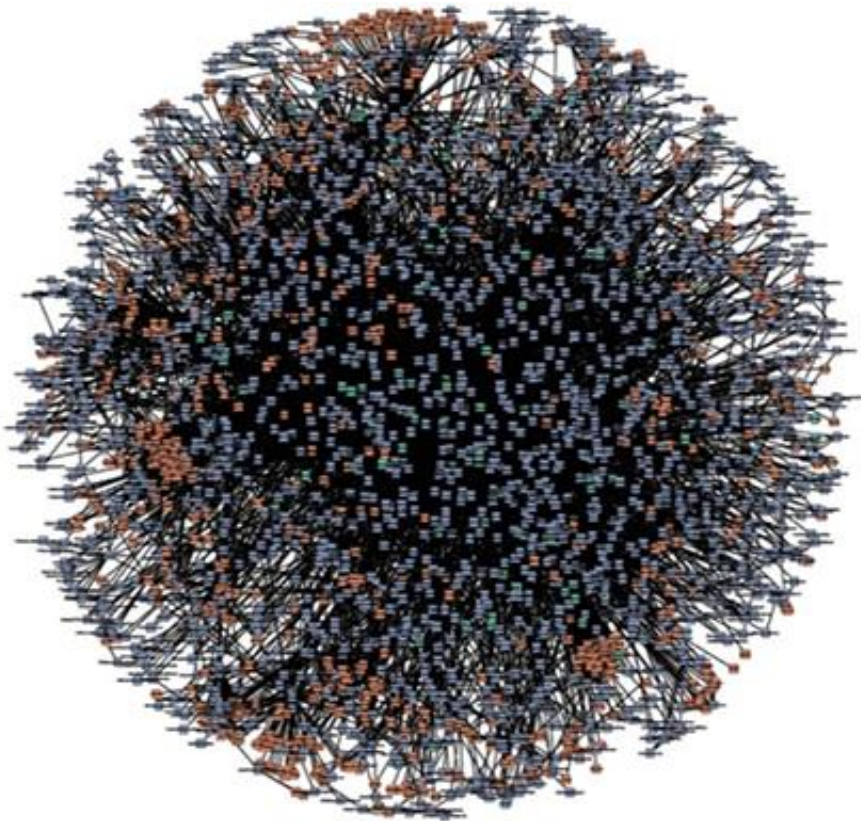
The Modulith - salvation for the monolith?

With the advent of microservices, the monolith has developed an image problem. A monolith with attractive inner values, the well-structured Modulith, is stepping up to save the honour of the monolith. The question is whether, instead of the contrast between monolith and microservice, there is not a continuum of software architectures that have different degrees of modularisation, increasing in very fine steps.

We will discuss these topics with Dr. Sönke Magnussen and Johannes Rost, who will draw on their extensive project experience to reflect on modularisation.

<https://www.wps.de/en/news/the-modulith-salvation-for-the-monolith>

Microservice Architectures

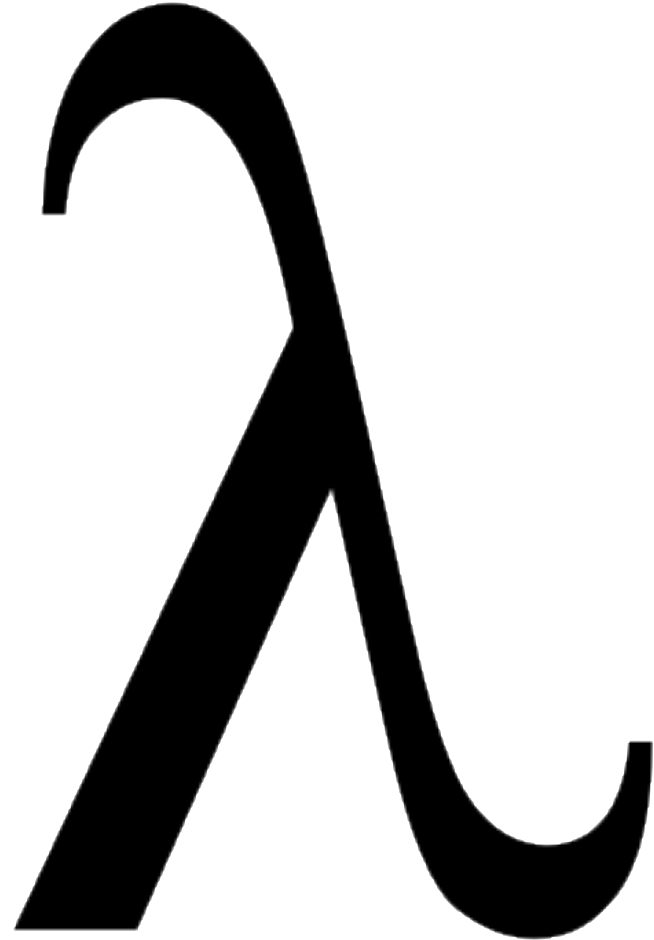
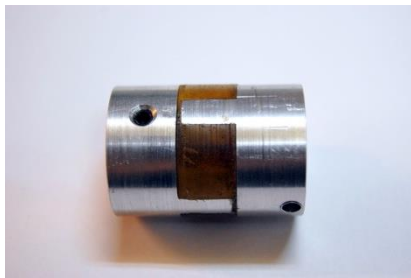


amazon.com

NETFLIX

Decoupled by Default

- immutability
- abstraction boundaries
- expressive interface languages
- expressive effects



Putting it all
together

Curriculum for
CPSA Certified Professional for
Software Architecture®

– Advanced Level –

**Module:
FUNAR**

**Functional
Software Architecture**



<https://www.isaqb.org/certifications/advanced-level/?lang=en>

A Blueprint for Functional Software Design

- bottom-up
- start with functional qualities
- everything is data
- data modeling with sums and products
- abstraction
- combinator models
- algebraic structures
- mathematical properties

Functional Reactive Animation

Conal Elliott
Microsoft Research
Graphics Group
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Paul Hudak
Yale University
Dept. of Computer Science
paul.hudak@yale.edu



Bottom-Up

Abstract

Fran (Functional Reactive Animation) is a collection of data types and functions for composing richly interactive, multimedia animations. The key ideas in *Fran* are its notions of *behaviors* and *events*. Behaviors are time-varying, reactive values, while events are sets of arbitrarily complex conditions, carrying possibly rich information. Most traditional values can be treated as behaviors, and when images are thus treated, they become animations. Although these notions are captured as data types rather than a programming language, we provide them with a denotational semantics, including a proper treatment of real time, to guide reasoning and implementation. A method to effectively and efficiently perform *event detection* using *interval analysis* is also described, which relies on the partial information structure on the domain of event times. *Fran* has been implemented in Hugs, yielding surprisingly good performance for an interpreter-based system. Several examples are given, including the ability to describe physical phenomena involving gravity, springs, velocity, acceleration, etc. using ordinary differential equations.

- capturing and handling sequences of motion input events, even though motion input is conceptually continuous;
- time slicing to update each time-varying animation parameter, even though these parameters conceptually vary in parallel; and

By allowing programmers to express the “what” of an interactive animation, one can hope to then automate the “how” of its presentation. With this point of view, it should not be surprising that a set of richly expressive recursive data types, combined with a declarative programming language, serves comfortably for modeling animations, in contrast with the common practice of using imperative languages to program in the conventional hybrid modeling/presentation style. Moreover, we have found that non-strict semantics, higher-order functions, strong polymorphic typing, and systematic overloading are valuable language properties for supporting modeled animations. For these reasons, *Fran* provides these data types in the programming language Haskell [9].

Advantages of Modeling over Presentation

The benefits of a modeling approach to animation are similar

Data Modeling

- functions
- *data*
- products
- *sums* FTW

Data Modeling with Sums and Products

25.11.2024 von Michael Sperber und Stefan Wehr

This is an English translation of the [German version of this post](#).

Data Modeling is often an underappreciated aspect of software architecture, yet it plays a crucial role in achieving not only functional but also usability and maintainability goals. Poor data models and poor modeling practices can greatly hinder architecture work. Consequently, data modeling — particularly concerning domain information — should be considered a fundamental responsibility of software architecture.

<https://funktionale-programmierung.de/2024/11/25/sums-products-english.html>

What We Model When We Model - OO

```
interface Animal {  
    void runOver();  
    void feed(Amount amount);  
}
```

Quelle: [Wikipedia](#)
CC Attribution 3.0 Unported



What We Model When We Model - FP

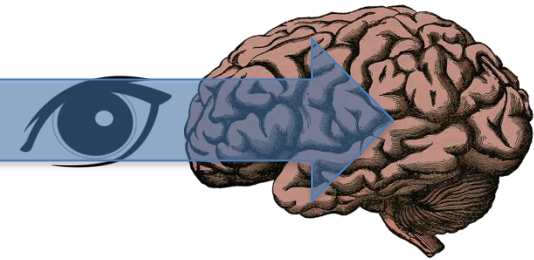
```
runOverAnimal :: Animal -> Animal
```

```
feedAnimal :: Weight -> Animal -> Animal
```

Quelle: [Wikipedia](#)
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Reality and Snapshots

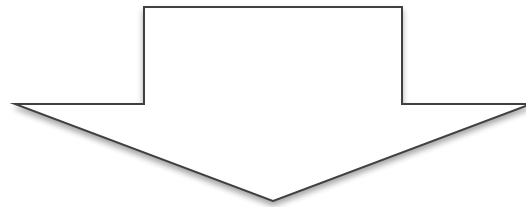
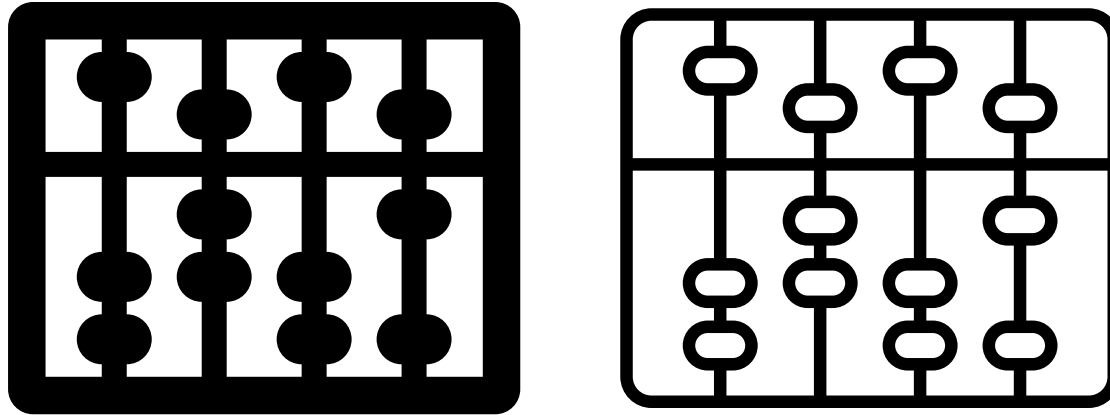


Architecture Evolution

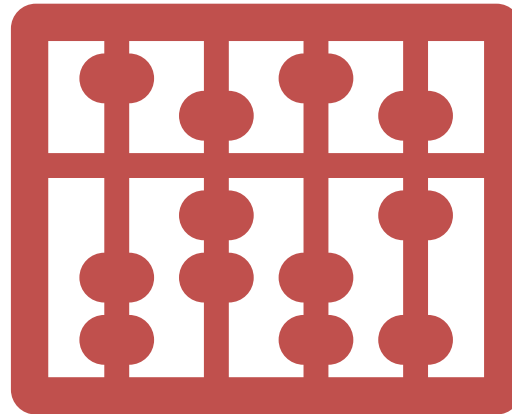
- model domain with data
 - implement functions
 - change to achieve quality-specific requirements
- } functionality

low coupling $\Rightarrow \Delta \sim \text{€}$

Abstraction



$\lambda \square.$



Combinator Libraries



Combinator Libraries

- meet functional requirements
- facilitate communication
- decouple representation from behavior
- slow down change
- fulfill future requirements without or with small changes

Algebraic Structures

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 (M \otimes M) \otimes M & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & M \otimes (M \otimes M) & \xrightarrow{1 \otimes \mu} & M \otimes M \\
 \downarrow \mu \otimes 1 & & & & \downarrow \mu \\
 M \otimes M & \xrightarrow{\mu} & & & M
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 T(X) & \xrightarrow{\eta_{T(X)}} & T(T(X)) \\
 \downarrow T(\eta_X) & \searrow & \downarrow \mu_X \\
 T(T(X)) & \xrightarrow{\mu_X} & T(X)
 \end{array}$$

Abstract Nonsense



Why This?

THE CALCULI OF LAMBDA-CONVERSION

BY

ALONZO CHURCH

PRINCETON
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS
LONDON: HUMPHREY MILFORD
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

1941

λ

... profit?



Mathematics =
Brain Patterns
for Thinking



FP/Mathematics and Humans

- Model Human Understanding
(rather than *the thing*)
- Immutability FTW
- Maths = Patterns for Human Understanding

FP Todos

- top-down FP design
(and meet-in-the-middle)
- architecture documentation
patterns & visualization
- stakeholder communication
- books
- cross-pollination with the non-FP types