### Drasil: A Confluence of Ideas

Jacques Carette, Spencer Smith, ...

Computing and Software Department Faculty of Engineering McMaster University

Mila Comp. Calc. RG



Observations

Weaving

Drasil

We have good generative technologies



Observations

Weaving

Drasii

- 1 We have good generative technologies
- 2 There are vastly different kinds of software



Observations

Weaving

Diasi

- 1 We have good generative technologies
- 2 There are vastly different kinds of software
- 3 "Software" is made up of many artifacts



Observations

Weaving

Diasi

- 1 We have good generative technologies
- 2 There are vastly different kinds of software
- 3 "Software" is made up of many artifacts
- 4 Programmer productivity is a real concern



Weaving

Diasi

## Generative Technologies

### Metaocami and (typed) template Haskell.

- Linear Algebra. GPCE 2005, SCP 2011
- Generative Geometry Kernel. PEPM 2011
- Generic Object-Oriented Language. PEPM 2020
- Hakaru. PADL 2016, FLOPS 2016, ICFP 2019
- Finally Tagless. ASPLOS 2007, JFP 2009
- Generating Theories "for free". CICM 2020, thesis 2021



## Kinds of Software

Observations

Weaving

Drasil

Kind	Process
------	---------



## Kinds of Software

Observations

Weaving

Drasil

Kind	Process
One-off script	Just write it!



Weaving

Drasii

Kind	Process
One-off script	Just write it!
Pacemaker software	Design, design, design



Weaving

Drasil

Kind	Process
One-off script	Just write it!
Pacemaker software	Design, design, design
Probe O/S (Voyager)	Design, design, design



Weaving

Drasii

Kind	Process
One-off script	Just write it!
Pacemaker software	Design, design, design
Probe O/S (Voyager)	Design, design, design
New project (Uber long ago)	Agile



Weaving

Drasil

Kind	Process
One-off script	Just write it!
Pacemaker software	Design, design, design
Probe O/S (Voyager)	Design, design, design
New project (Uber long ago)	Agile
Linux Kernel	Program Family



Weaving

Drasii

Kind	Process
One-off script	Just write it!
Pacemaker software	Design, design, design
Probe O/S (Voyager)	Design, design, design
New project (Uber long ago)	Agile
Linux Kernel	Program Family
Interactive Fiction (Inform 7)	DSL



Weaving

Drasii

Kind	Process
One-off script	Just write it!
Pacemaker software	Design, design, design
Probe O/S (Voyager)	Design, design, design
New project (Uber long ago)	Agile
Linux Kernel	Program Family
Interactive Fiction (Inform 7)	DSL
Research Software	???



## **Softifacts**

#### Observations

Weaving

Drasil

- code
- Makefile (build script / plan)
- installation docs
- design, requirements docs
- user docs
- tests
- theory manual



Weaving

Diasi

## Softifacts

- code
- Makefile (build script / plan)
- installation docs
- design, requirements docs
- user docs
- tests
- theory manual

**Key Observation**: Different views of the same information



Weaving

Diasi

## Softifacts

- code
- Makefile (build script / plan)
- installation docs
- design, requirements docs
- user docs
- tests
- theory manual

**Key Observation**: Different views of the same information **Counterfactual**: If the information wasn't somehow related, why is it all in the same place?



Softifacts

Observations

Weaving

Diasi

- code
- Makefile (build script / plan)
- installation docs
- design, requirements docs
- user docs
- tests
- theory manual

**Key Observation**: Different views of the same information **Counterfactual**: If the information wasn't somehow related, why is it all in the same place?

### Definition

Softifacts are different **representations** of (a subset of) some core knowledge.



Weaving

## **Programmer Productivity**

### More Observations:

Long term



Weaving

Diasii

## **Programmer Productivity**

#### More Observations:

- Long term
- Knowledge capture, especially tacit and design



Weaving

Drasil

## **Programmer Productivity**

#### More Observations:

- Long term
- Knowledge capture, especially tacit and design
- Usefulness to users



Weaving

## **Programmer Productivity**

#### More Observations:

- Long term
- Knowledge capture, especially tacit and design
- Usefulness to users

input: integral over time of effort

output: integral over time of (the sum over classes of users of (satisfaction \* knowledge-created))

productivity = output / input



Weaving

Diasi

## Weaving

- generative technologies
- 2 different kinds of software
- 3 softifacts
- 4 Programmer productivity

- 1+2 linux kernel, ATLAS, Spiral
- 1+3 literate programming, org-mode, autoconf, cmake, nix
- 1+4 design choices become softifacts. Viewpoints Institute work.
- 2.3 ????
- 2.4 javadoc, doxygen, man pages
- 3.4 README, tutorials, Manifest





Weaving

Drasil

# Go Live!