

# Practicing DSLs: From Code to Models

Laure Gonnord / Sébastien Mosser Lyon 1, LIP / UCA, I3S EduSump'18, 16.10.2018



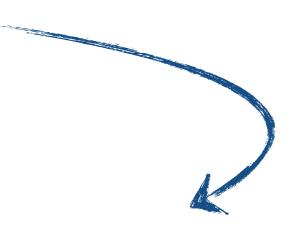
## First version: EduSump'14

Exploiting the Internet of Things to Teach Domain-Specific Languages and Modeling The ArduinoML project

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2013-2016



#### Practicing Domain-Specific Languages: From Code to Models

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Nice (MDE, DSL)

## Terrible news!

## Students consider Modelling as Meta-bla-bla

**Complicated tools** 

**Compilation** ≠ parsing

MDE is not "UML2RDMS"

Who cares about the UML in real life situations?

## Terrible news!

Consider Modification Advertisement:

On Blatant Advertisement:

On Blatant

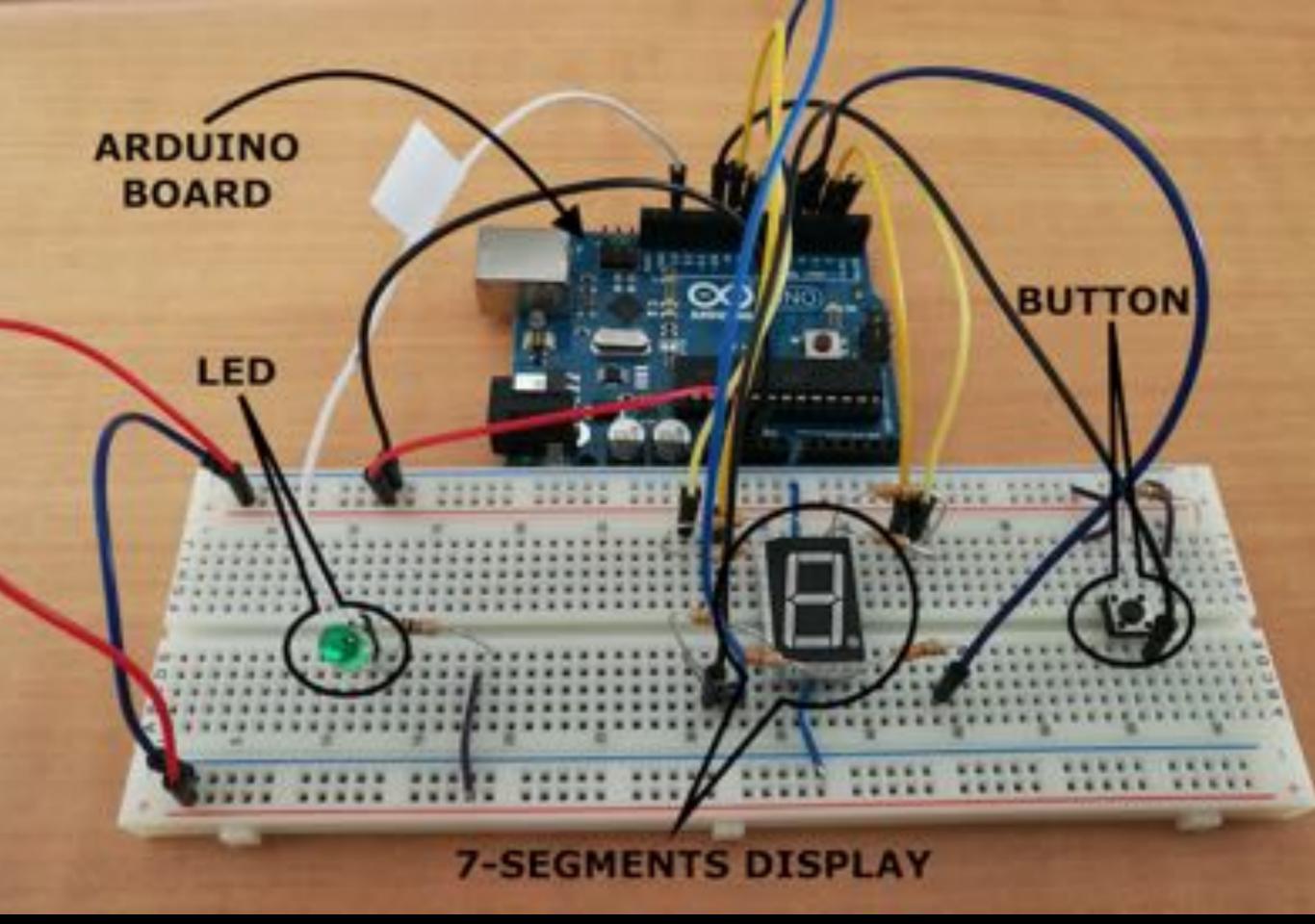
## Objectives: Make modelling fun again!

- 1. Abstract code into models;
- 2. Operationalise model;
- Concepts ≠ Tools;
- 4. Hands-on labs / projects.

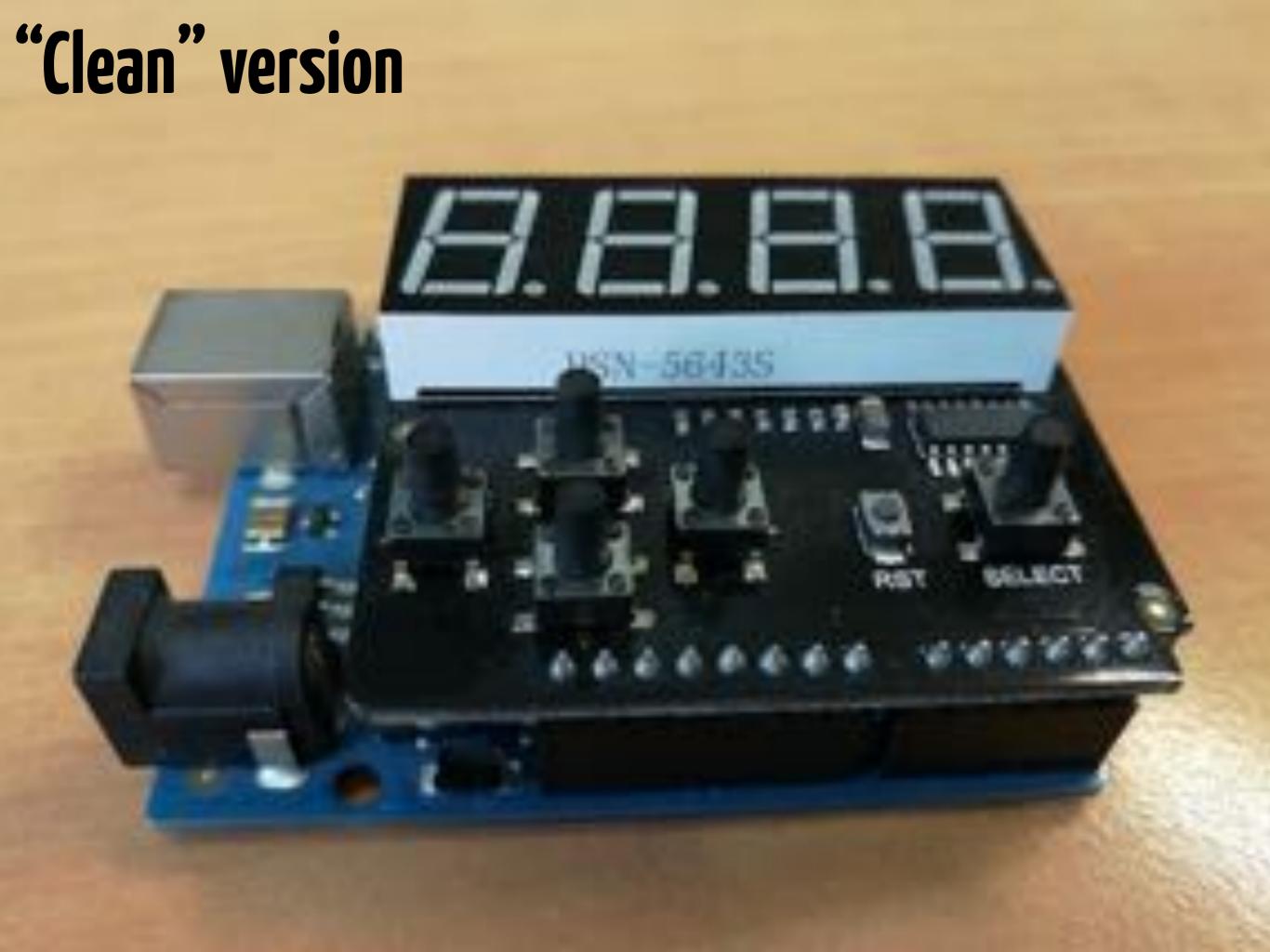
## Finding the Right Application Domain

- The domain cannot be a "toy example"
  - The domain should not be too much complicated
- The domain should illustrate nicely different modelling approaches
  - The domaine should also illustrate common challenges in compilation

## Reactive systems & Micro-controllers



Approximate cost = 30€



## Devil's plan: Simple → Complicated

Provide a blinking LED example

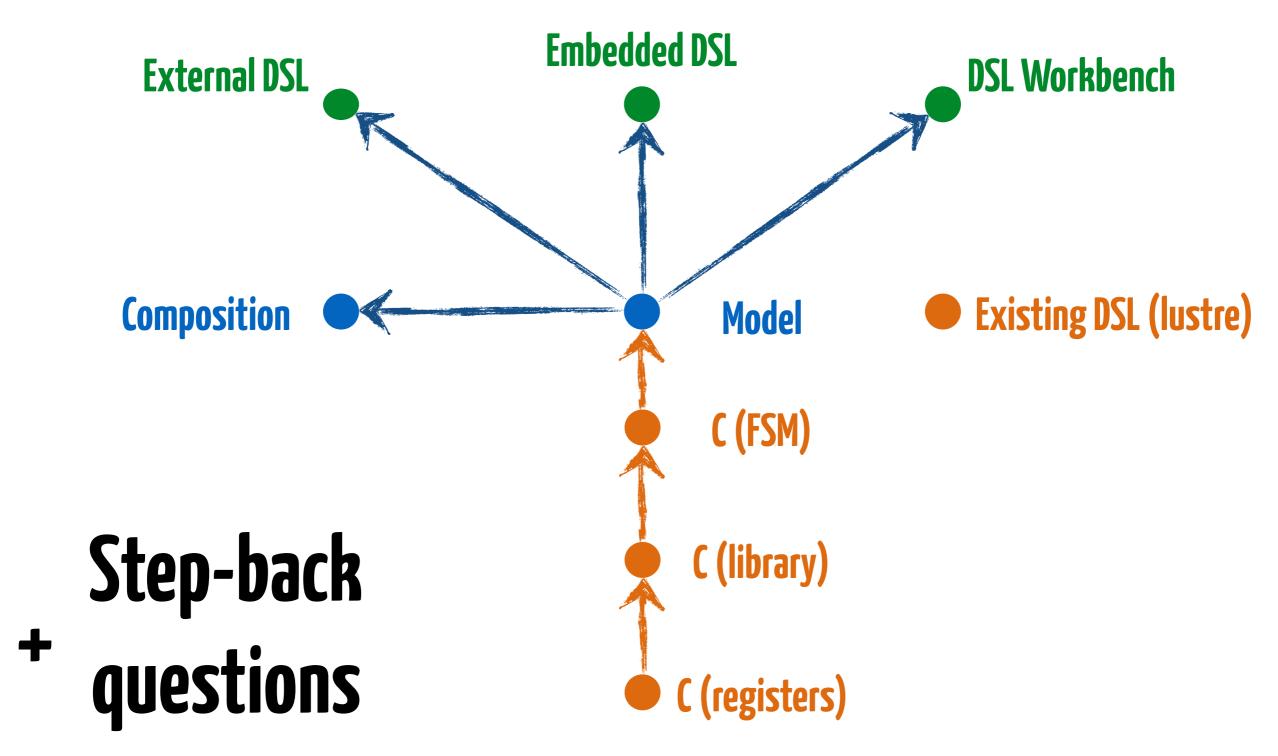
Led + Button / On & Off



7-segment counter / reset



## A journey into abstraction levels



### Where do we start?

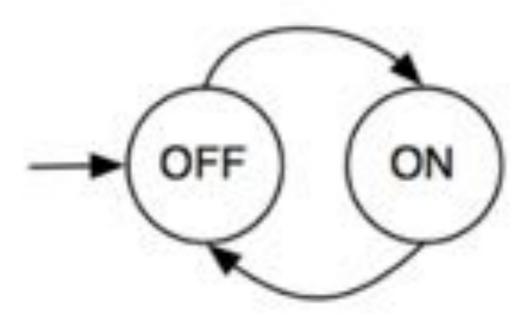
```
void change_led_state(){
   PORTB ^= 0b00100000; // Change digital 13 on->off->on (xor is life!)
 }
                                  void init(void)
                                    // DDRB is the configuration register for digital 7 to 18
                                    DDRB |= 0b00100000;// Digital 13 "outputmode"
                                    // TODO : enable write for digital 1 to 7 (7seg)
                                    // TODO : initialize global state values
int main(void)
  init();
  while(1) //infinite loop
      // display_7seg(0); // uncomment to test the 7-seg when DDRD is configured
      change_led_state();
      _delay_ms(1000); // 1Hz period
  return 0;
```

## Library-based code

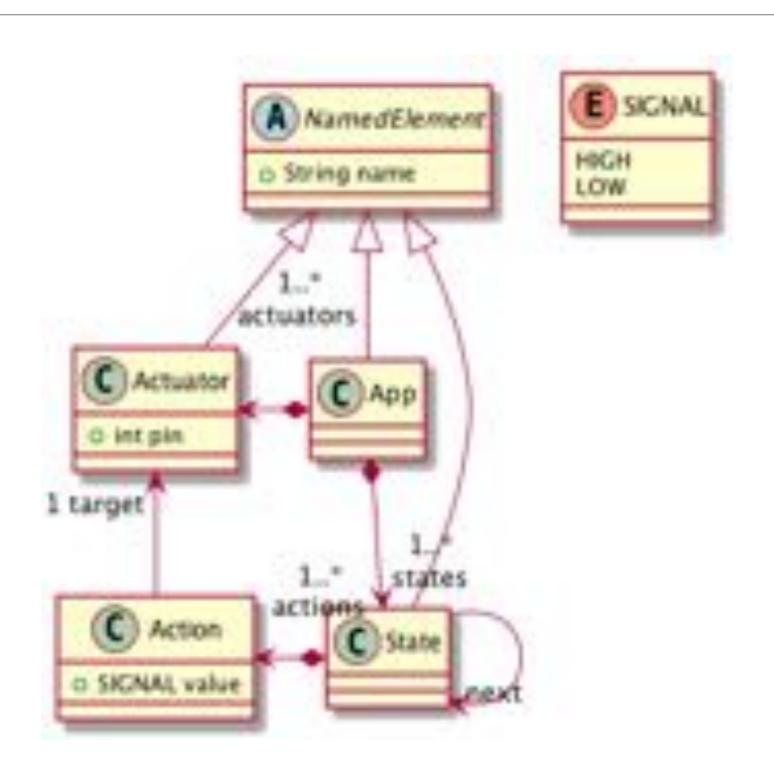
```
int main(void)
                              void change_state_led(){
 setup();
                                 if (led_on){
 while(1)
                                   digitalWrite(led, LOW);
     // displayDigit(0);
                                 } else
     change_state_led();
                                   digitalWrite(led, HIGH);
     _delay_ms(1000);
                                 led_on = !led_on;
                              }
  return 0;
```

## Programming a model

```
int main(void)
  setup();
  state_on(); // initial state
  return 0;
void state_on() {
  digitalWrite(led, HIGH);
 _delay_ms(1000);
  state_off();
void state_off() {
  digitalWrite(led, LOW);
 _delay_ms(1000);
  state_on();
```



## Modelling a Program

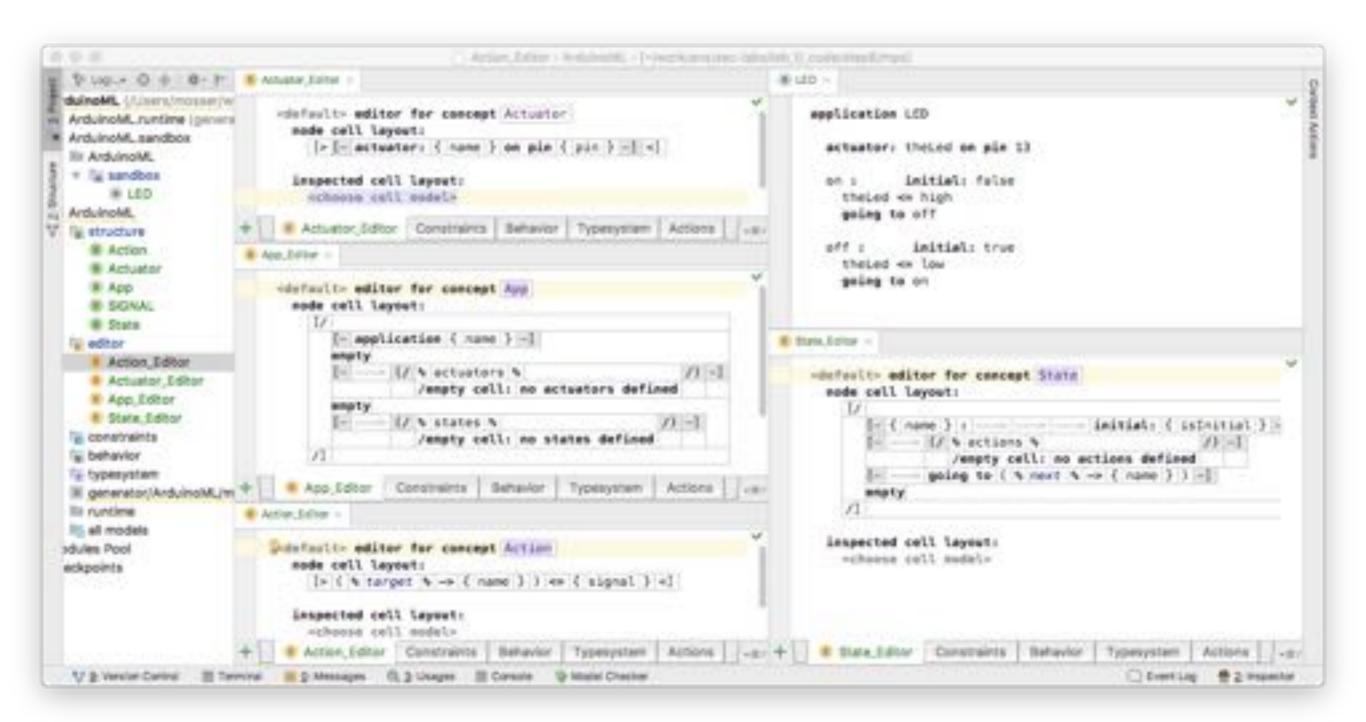


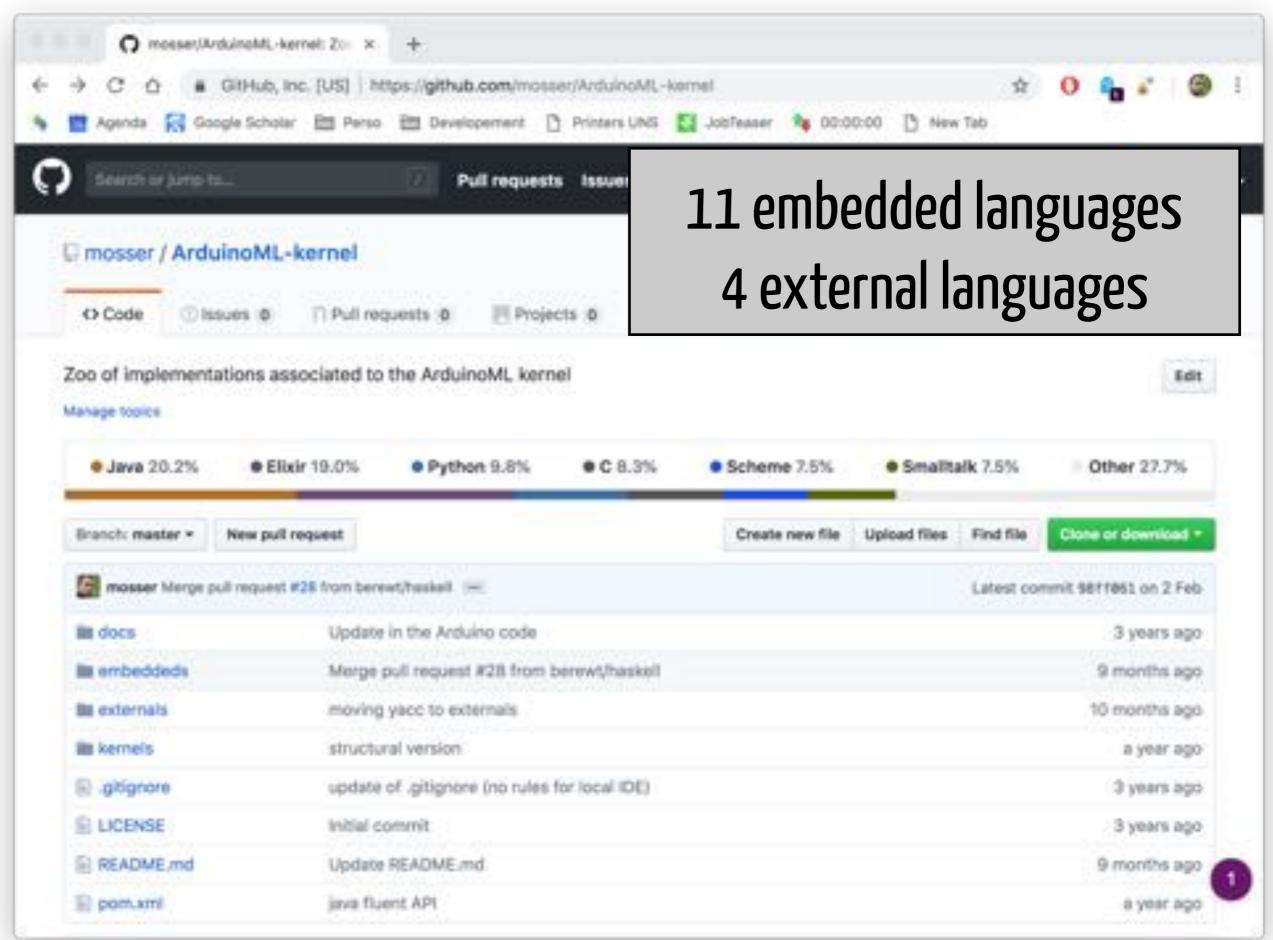
## Tooling the model: Composing Apps

- Challenge: Express the LED example and the Counter one separately
  - Compute the expected one instead of programming it
- How to create such a composition?
  - All the FSMs at the very same place (runtime composition semantic)
  - Creating an app containing all the FSMs separately
  - Merging the FSMs to assess global properties

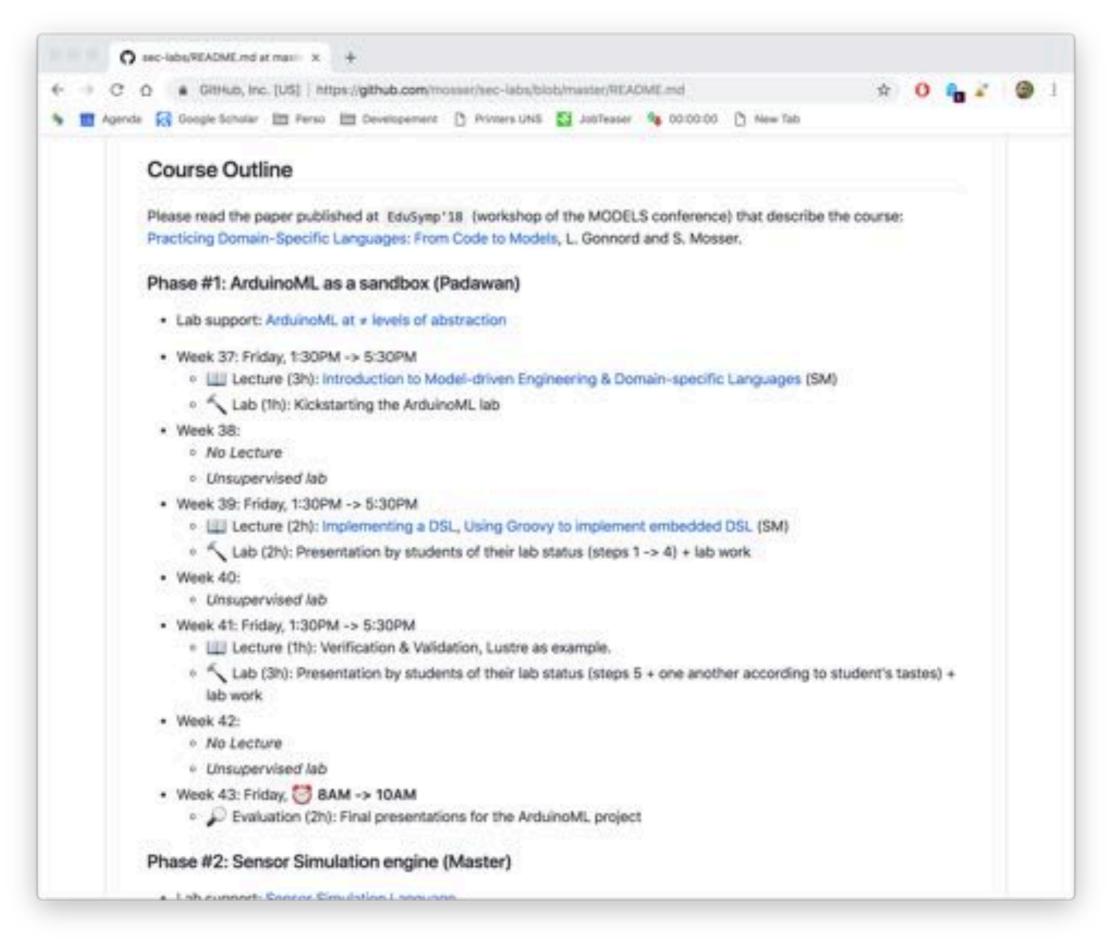
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## Designing a DSL





https://github.com/mosser/ArduinoML-kernel



### https://github.com/mosser/sec-labs/

# Implementation (grad)





~ 10 students

**Research-oriented institution** 

Practical labs + bibliographic study

> 40 students

**Software Engineering** 

8 weeks project + exam

## Key takeaways: No Pain, No Gain

Starting at a low level is "painful"

Pain helps to accept the modelling overhead

Students defend the MDE approach at the end!

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