

Nancy

The lazy web site builder

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Why?

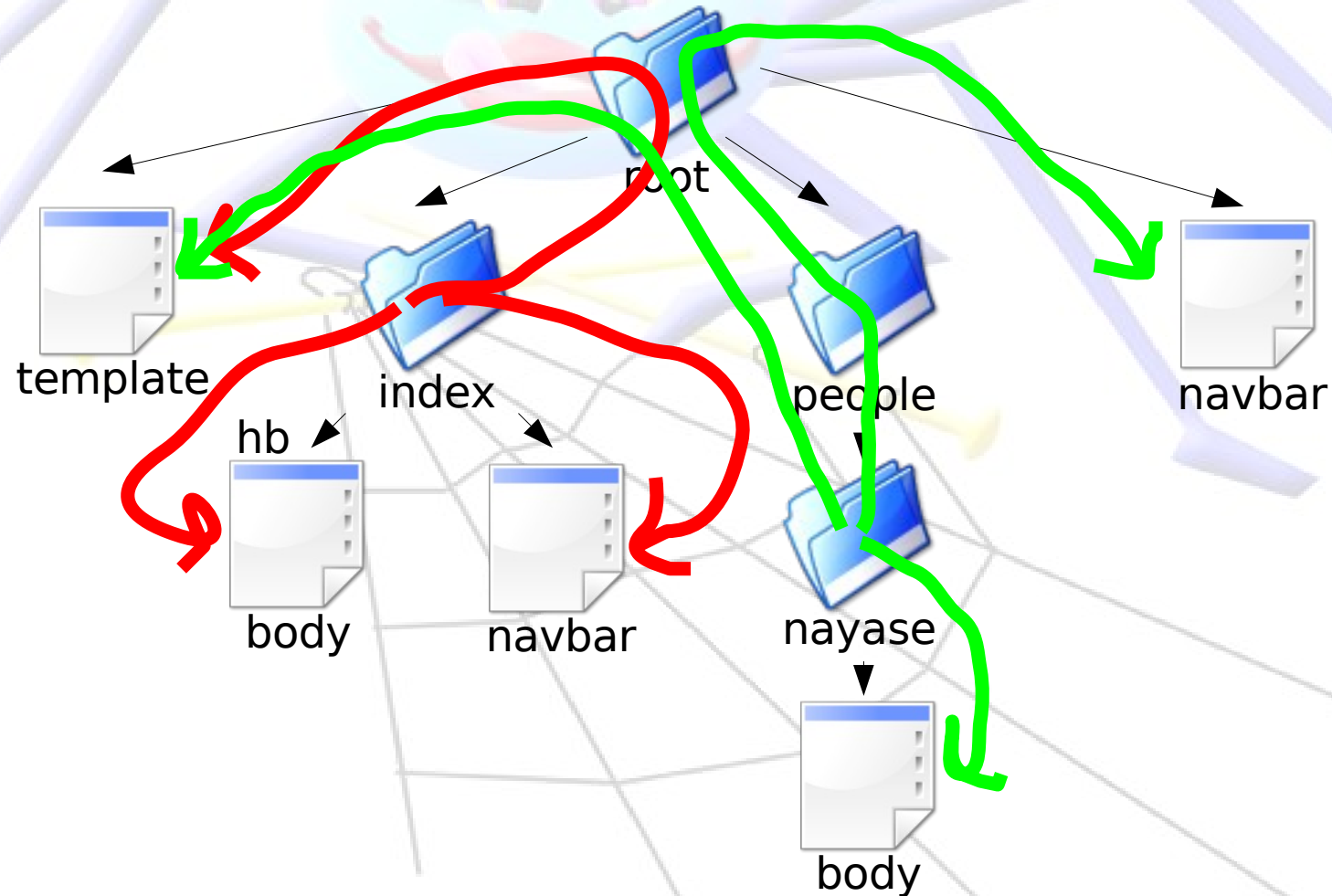
- Impatient user
 - Existing hand-written web site getting too big
 - No time to learn complex tools
- Lazy author
 - No money to motivate me!
 - I already had the code in another project
- Result: hubris
 - User has no time to learn a new system, I have no time to write one; result:

What?

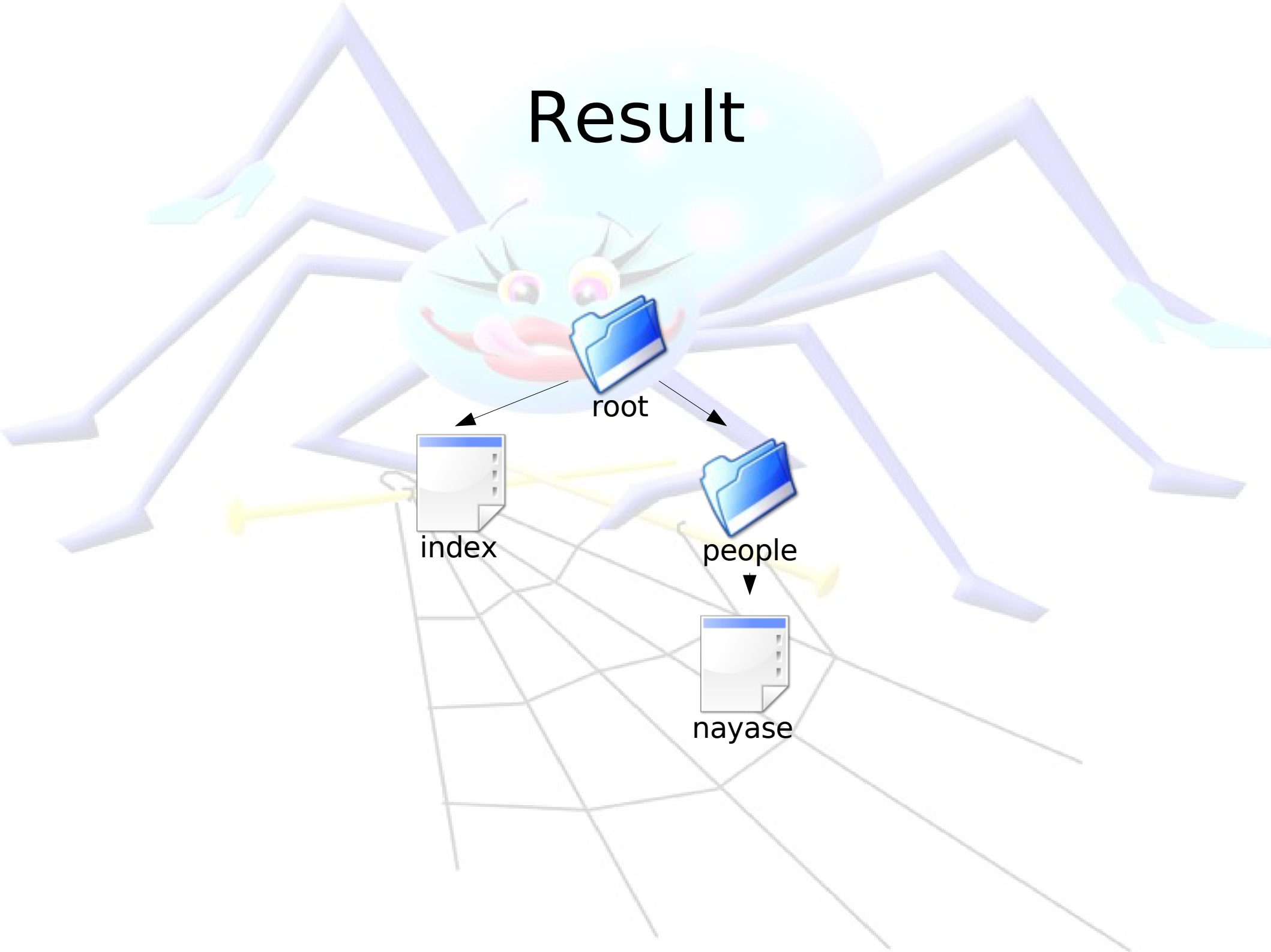
- `$include{file}`
 - a one-feature template system
 - cut out of Wiklet, my tiny wiki
 - fragments are written from template tree and pages are written to HTML page tree
- Problem: what about specialisation for different pages?
- Answer: inheritance

What??

- Think “specialization” not “inheritance”



Result



Nice, but isn't it just a toy?

- Already used for a corporate web site of about 100 pages, assembled from over 400 fragments: <http://www.adsensus.net/>
- Currently being used to develop a web site of roughly double that complexity
- Can handle just about anything without dynamically computed content
 - Put another way, if the content is all static, the logical structure should mirror the site structure

Moral

- The 80/20 rule sets the bar too high:
start with 50/1, and assume YAGNI
 - Nancy is ~50 LOC
- **Never underestimate how simply you can solve a problem**

More questions



- *Where?*
<http://rrt.sc3d.org/Software/Nancy>
- *How?* GPL
- *Even more questions?*