LIVE CODING

Ben Swift



LIVE CODING: EMBRACE THE NERDINESS!

- Computer code-based musical improvisation
- Code is written and modified on-the-fly
- · Code is projected for audience to see
- Several environments available I use Extempore

(define beep

```
(define beep
(lambda (time)
```

instrument pitch velocity duration (samples)

(define beep
(lambda (time)
(play-note time beep-inst 60 80 22000)

function definition

```
(define beep
  (lambda (time)
        (play-note time beep-inst 60 80 22000)
        (callback (+ time 44100) 'beep (+ time 44100))))

(beep (now))
        function 'trigger'
```

current time (in samples)

```
(define beep
  (lambda (time)

  ; do something musically interesting
  ; ...
      (callback (+ time 44100) 'beep (+ time 44100))))
(beep (now))
```

DJING VS LIVE CODING

	DJ	Live Coder
Control Level	audio stream	single note
Interface	graphical	language
Nerdiness	high	very high

DURING A PERFORMANCE...

```
(define beep
   (lambda (time)
        (play-note time beep-inst 60 80 22000)
        (callback (+ time 44100) 'beep (+ time 44100))))
(beep (now))
```

WRITING CODE

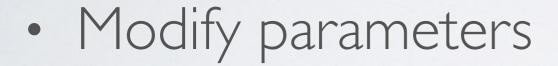
```
(define beep
   (lambda (time)
      (play-note time beep-inst 60 80 22000)
      (callback (+ time 44100) 'beep (+ time 44100))))
(beep (now))
(define boop
   (lambda (time)
      (play-note time boop-inst 60 80 22000)
      (callback (+ time 44100) 'boop (+ time 44100))))
(boop (now))
```

MODIFYING PARAMETERS

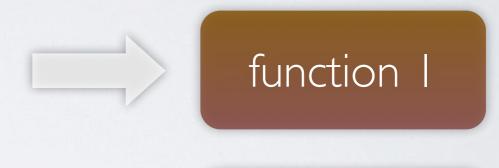
```
(define beep
   (lambda (time)
      (play-note time beep-inst 60 80 22000)
      (callback (+ time 44100) (beep (+ time 44100)
(beep (now))
(define boop
   (lambda (time)
      (play-note time boop-inst 60 80 22000)
      (callback (+ time 44100) (boop (+ time 44100)
(boop (now))
```

DURING A PERFORMANCE...

Write code



define trajectories



function 2

function 3

· Modify one function or parameter at a time

WHO IS LIVE CODING FOR?

- Musicians with an interest in programming and structure in music
- Programmers with an interest in creative uses for programming skills
- · You don't have to be an expert

GETTING STARTED

Extempore is freely available, see
 extempore.moso.com.au or
 benswift.me

 Tutorial videos available, example code, performance videos

DIGITAL CULTURES

- What's the relationship between medium and massage?
- Why do livecoders project their code? What does it add?
- · Where can you see livecoding going in the future?

ben.swift@anu.edu.au http://benswift.me