



Software Construction

2012-2013

Tijs van der Storm (storm@cwi.nl / @tvdstorm)



UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM



What this course is about

- You all know programming, right?
- But what is good code?
- How to *reason* about good code?
- What is *beautiful* code?
- Think about it.

This course is *not* about

- Data structures
- Algorithms
- Programming language X
- Paradigm X (though: OO)
- GUI programming
- Web applications
- Concurrency
- Performance
- Graphics programming
- Mathematics
- Computational complexity
- ...

Uncle Bob*

Why is there a software craftsmanship movement? What motivated it? What drives it now? *One thing; and one thing only.*

We are tired of writing crap.

That's it. The fat lady sang. Good nite Gracy. Over and out.

*Robert Martin, <http://cleancoder.posterous.com/software-craftsmanship-things-wars-commandmen>

Uncle Bob*

Why is there a software craftsmanship movement? What motivated it? What drives it now? *One thing; and one thing only.*

We are tired of writing crap.

That's it. The fat lady sang. Good nite Gracy. Over and out.

This course is *not* about the software craftsmanship movement...

*Robert Martin, <http://cleancoder.posterous.com/software-craftsmanship-things-wars-commandmen>

Uncle Bob*

Why is there a software craftsmanship movement? What motivated it? What drives it now? *One thing; and one thing only.*

We are tired of writing crap.

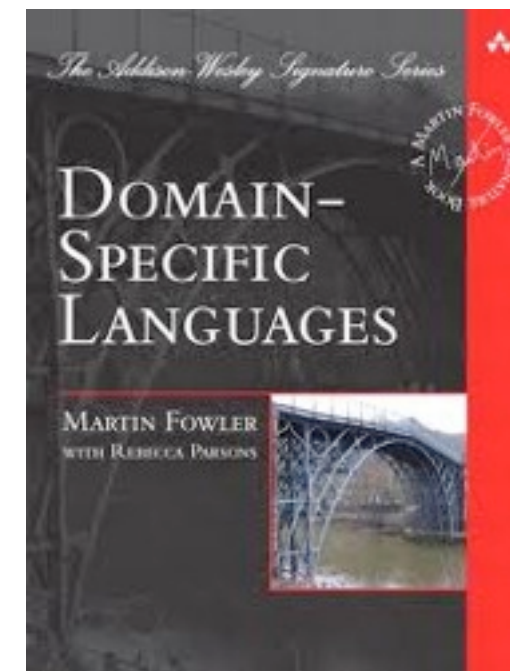
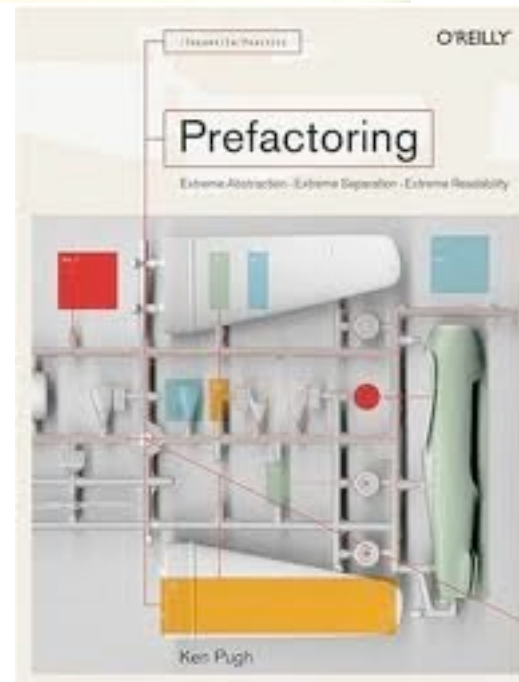
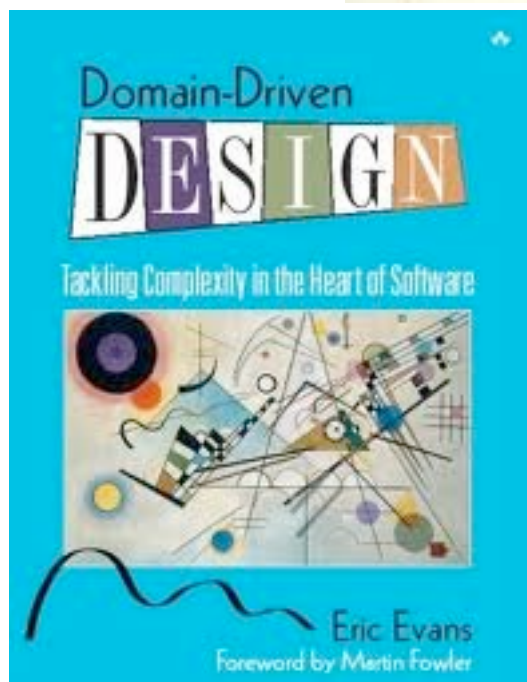
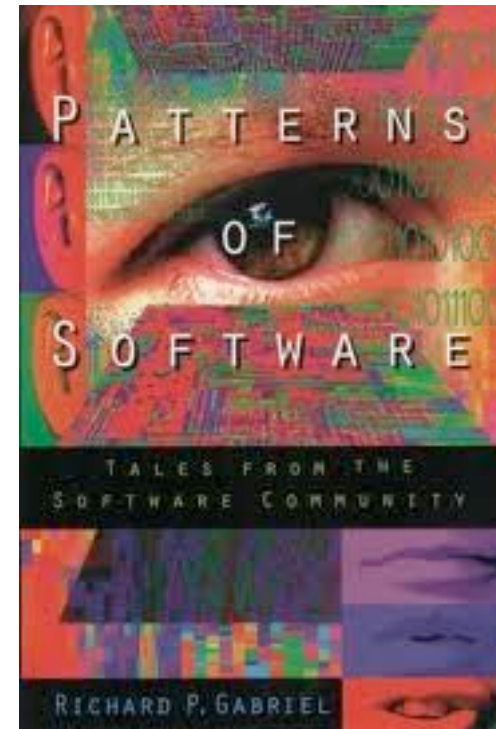
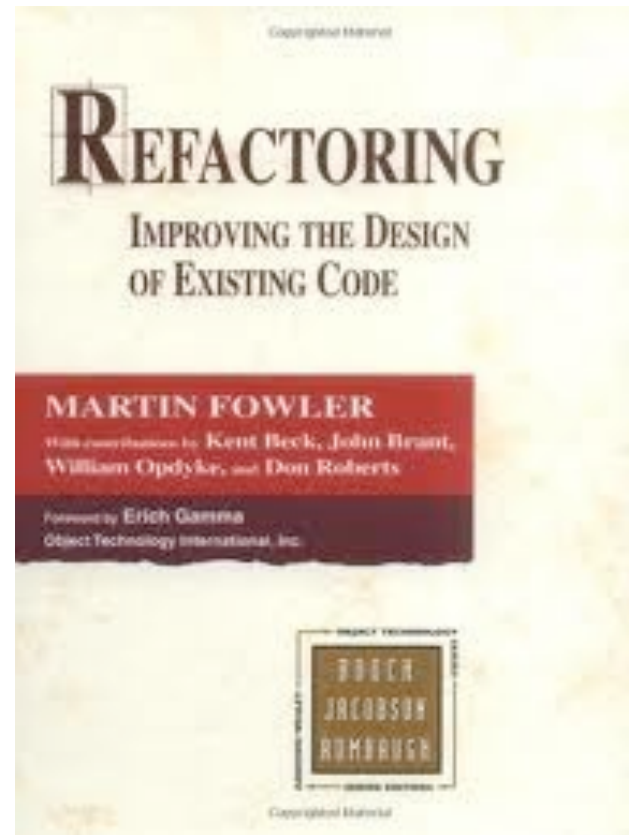
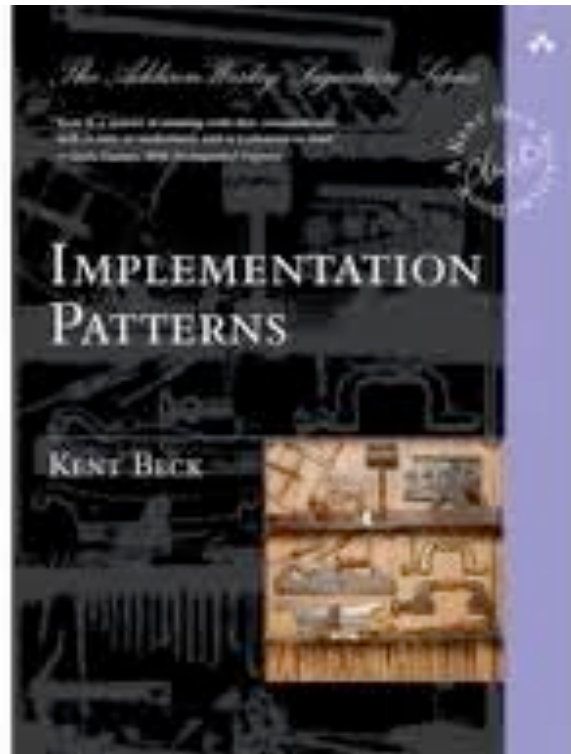
That's it. The fat lady sang. Good nite Gracy. Over and out.

This course is *not* about the software craftsmanship movement...

This course is about *not* writing crap.

*Robert Martin, <http://cleancoder.posterous.com/software-craftsmanship-things-wars-commandmen>

Representative books



Learning goals

A close-up photograph of a dartboard with concentric rings. A single dart with a blue flight and a gold barrel is embedded in the red bullseye. Two other darts are visible in the background, slightly out of focus.

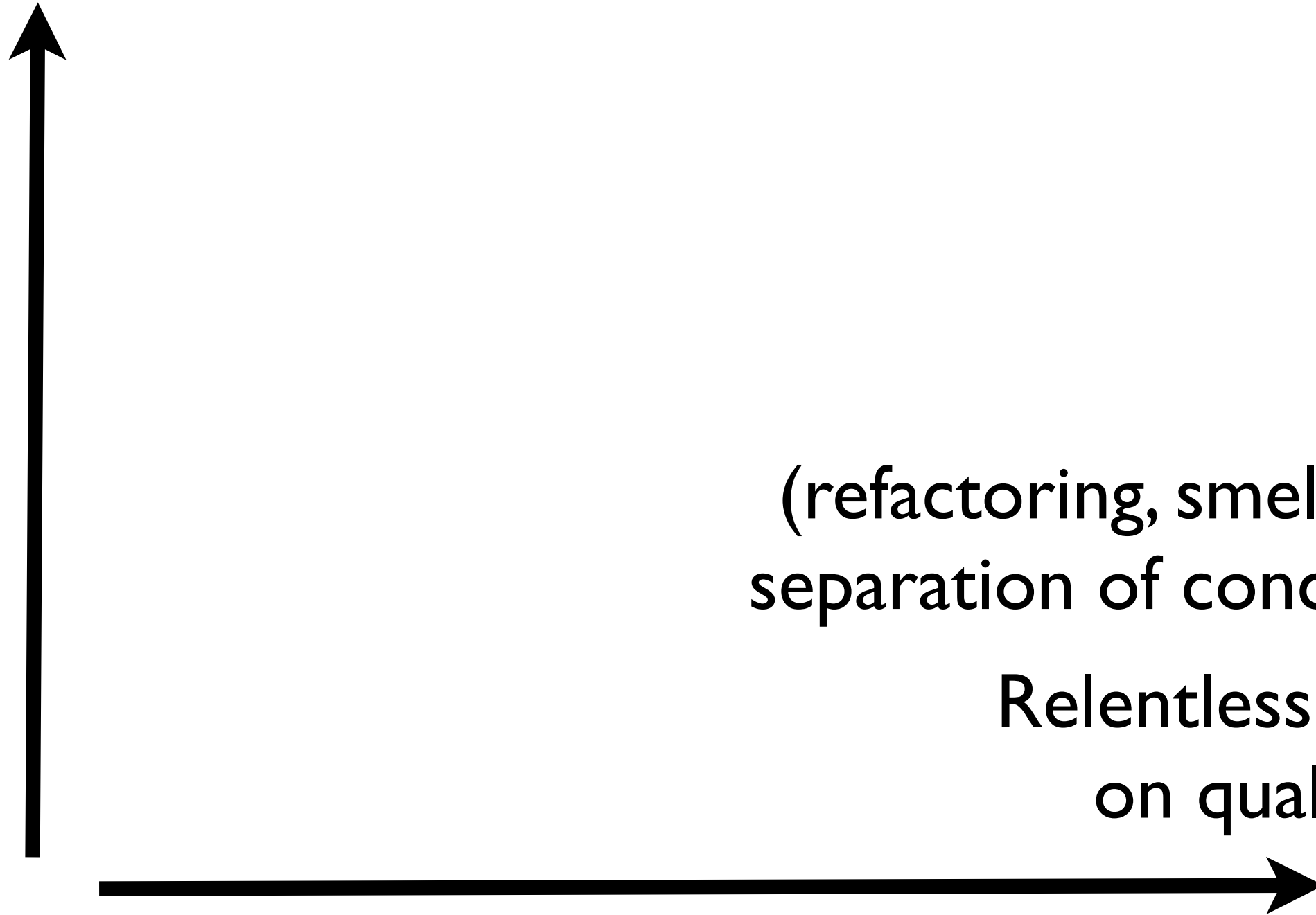
- Create good low level designs
- Produce clean, readable code
- Reflect upon techniques, patterns, guidelines etc.
- Assess the quality of code
- Apply state of the art software construction tools

Program
something
hard

(new techniques,
concepts, tools)

(refactoring, smells, design,
separation of concerns, etc.)

Relentless focus
on quality



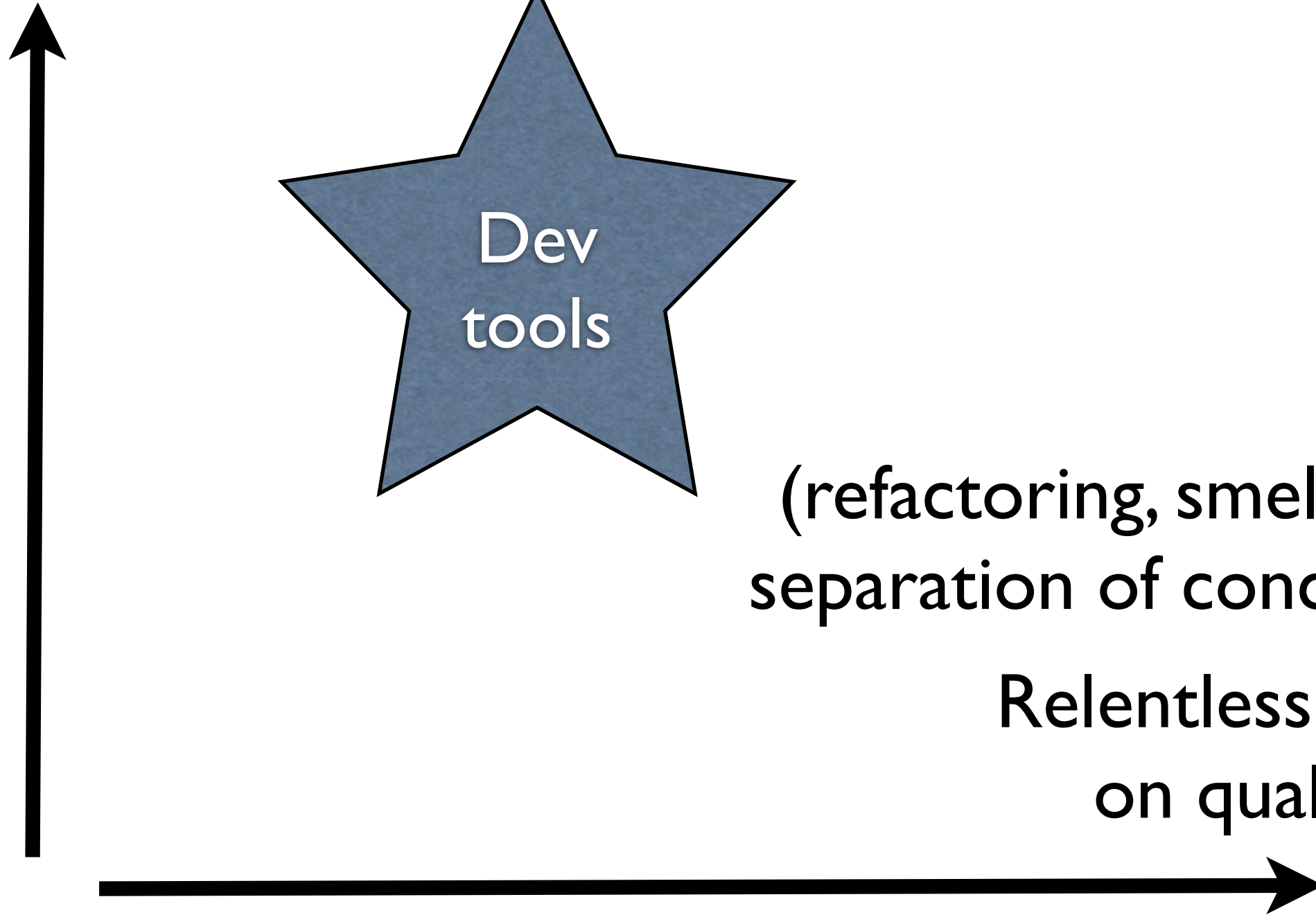
Program
something
hard

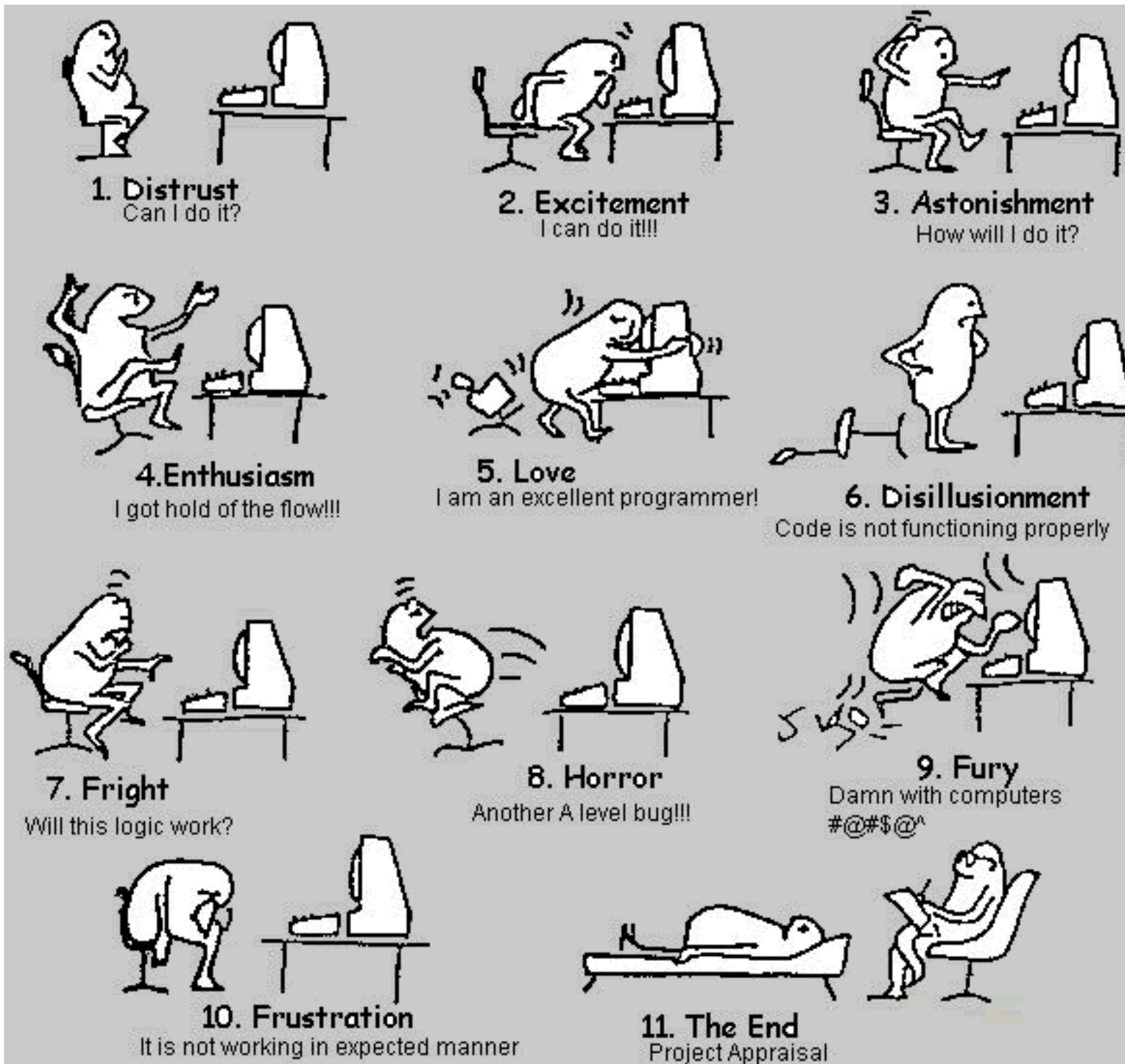
(new techniques,
concepts, tools)



(refactoring, smells, design,
separation of concerns, etc.)

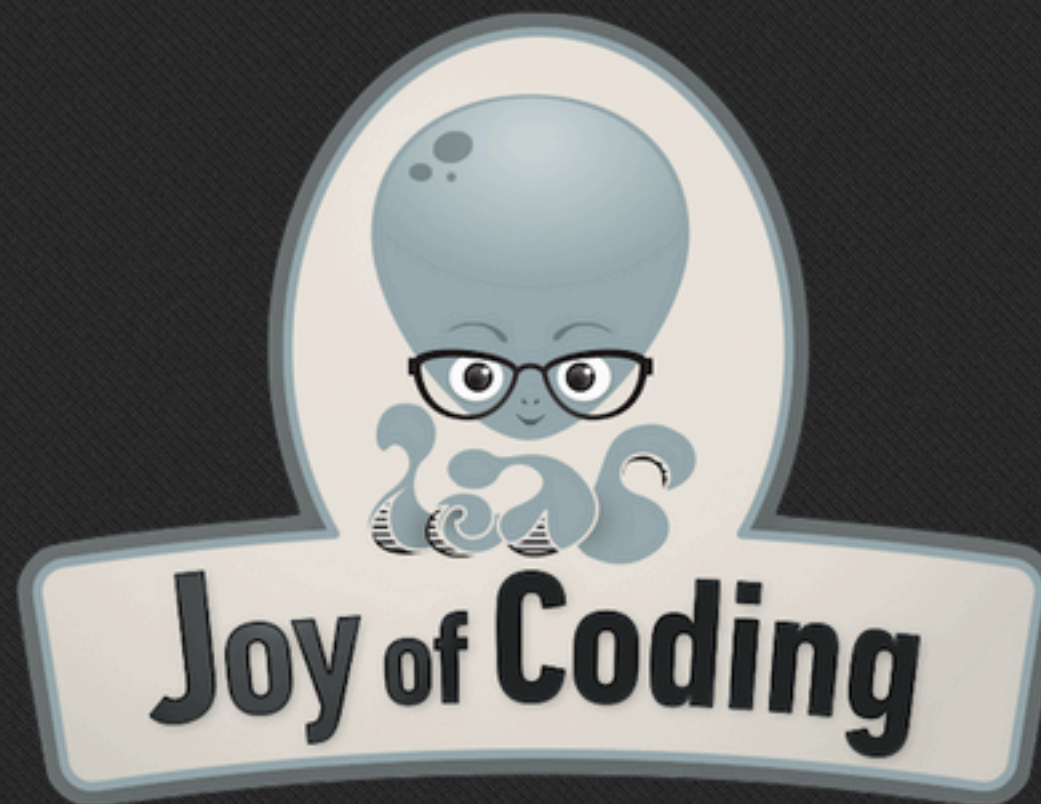
Relentless focus
on quality





<http://candraadi.wordpress.com/2012/10/17/programmer/>

Buy your ticket now, only € 130!
save money, buy before January 15th



📅 March 1st, 2013
📍 Rotterdam (NL)

A one-day conference that celebrates the art, craft,
science but foremost the joy of software
development



THE PASSIONATE PROGRAMMER

CREATING A REMARKABLE CAREER
IN SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT



CHAD FOWLER

FOREWORD BY DAVID HEINEMEIER HANSSON

This course

- Quality comes first
- Be your own worst critic
- Refactor mercilessly
- Aim to become code literati
- Better to read code, than to write code
- If it works it's not good enough

If it works, it's not good enough

If it works, it's not good enough

If it works, it's not good
enough

**If it works, it's
not good enough**

**If it works,
it's not good
enough**



If it works, it's not good enough
Working code is necessary, but not sufficient

Why?

Fact 41. Maintenance typically consumes 40 to 80 percent of software costs. It is probably the most important life cycle phase of software.

Fact 44. Understanding the existing product is the most difficult task of maintenance.

Fact 21. For every 25 percent increase in problem complexity, there is a 100 percent increase in solution complexity.

Robert Glass, *Facts and fallacies of Software Engineering*, Addison-Wesley 2003

Overview

- Lectures
- Theory
- Research paper + review
- Lab assignment
- Concluding

Lectures



Engraved by W. B. Woodcock March 5, 1750

Lectures

- Introduction (today)
- Syntax analysis
- Domain-specific languages
- Code quality
- Debugging

Guest lectures

- Jeroen van den Bos: DSL for digital forensics
- ?



“Theory”



Two tests

- Oldskool: on paper
- No grade, but you must *pass* them
- Selection from known questions

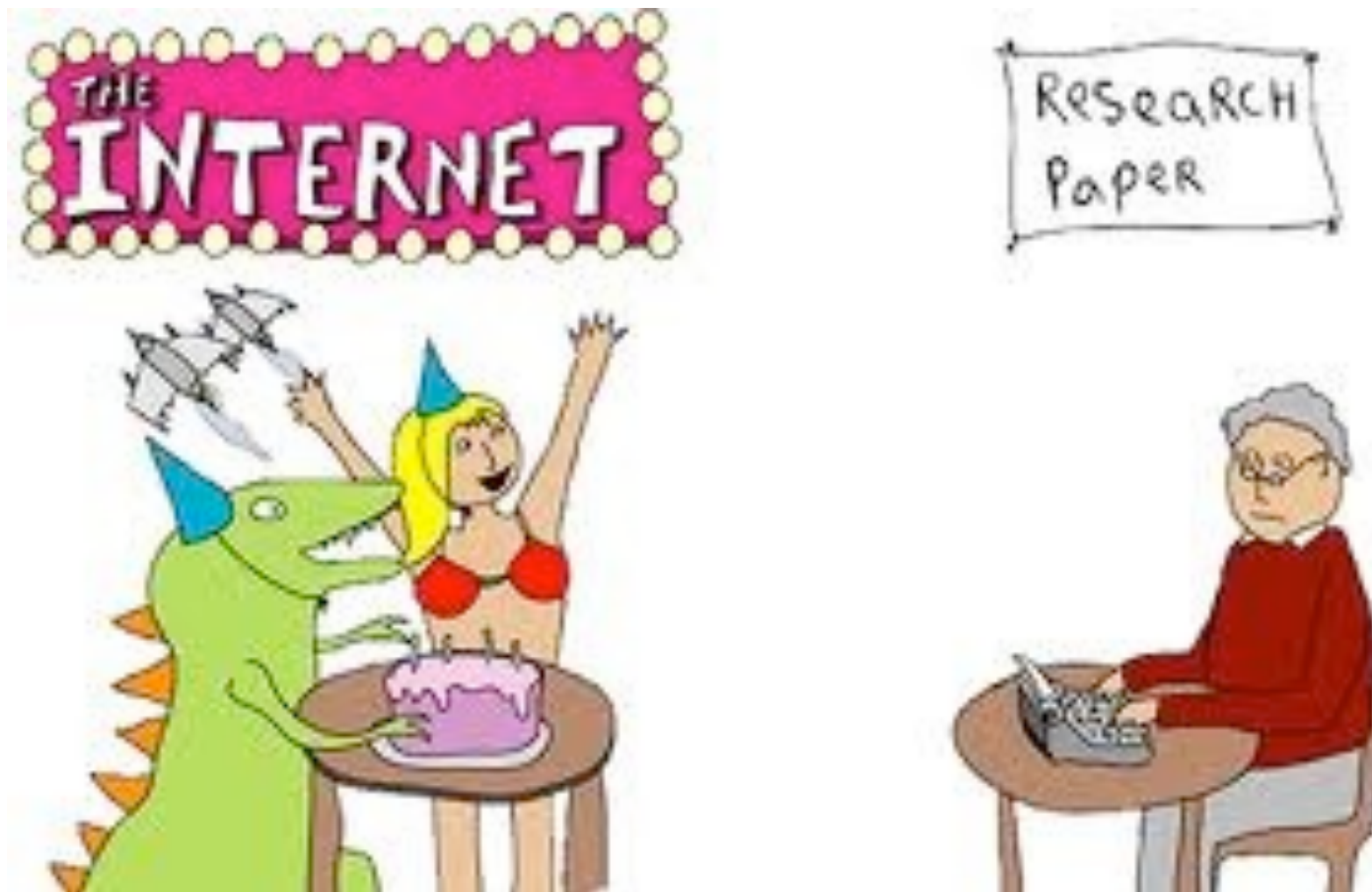
1st test: technique

- Bertrand Meyer, *Applying "Design by Contract"*, 1992, [Meyer92](#).
- Karl J. Lieberherr, Ian M. Holland, *Assuring Good Style for Object-Oriented Programs*, 1989, [LieberherrHolland89](#).
- Robert C. Martin, *The Open-Closed Principle*, 1996, [Martin96](#).
- Ralph Johnson, Brian Foote, *Designing reusable classes*, 1988, [JohnsonFoote88](#).
- Marjan Mernik et al. *When and How to Develop Domain Specific Languages*, 2005, [MernikEtAl05](#).

2 test: philosophy

- D. L. Parnas, *On the criteria to be used in decomposing systems into modules*, 1972, [Parnas72](#)
- William R. Cook, *On understanding data abstraction, revisited*, 2009, [Cook09](#).
- Herbert Simon, *The Architecture of Complexity*, [Simon62](#)
- Carliss Y. Baldwin, Kim B. Clark, *Modularity in the Design of Complex Engineering Systems*, [BaldwinClark06](#)
- Horst Rittel, Melvin Webber, *Dilemmas in a General Theory of Planning*, [RittelWebber84](#).

Research paper



Exercise in argumentation

- Paper: 3-5 pages
- Topics from predefined list
- Identify the central claim
- Argue **against** it (debunking)
- Required: find 2 more papers for support
- Must be clear you've read all 4 papers

Structured programming with or without gotos?

- E.W. Dijkstra *Goto considered harmful*, 1968, [Dijkstra68](#);
- D. Knuth, *Structured Programming with go to statements*, 1974, [Knuth74](#).

State Transactional Memory

- Simon Peyton Jones, *Beautiful Concurrency*, 2007, [PeytonJones07](#).
- Calin Cascaval et al. *Software Transactional Memory: Why is it Only a Research Toy?*, 2008, [CascavalEtAl08](#).
- Bryan Cantrill and Jeff Bonwick, *Real-world Concurrency*, 2008, [CantrillBonwick08](#).

Internal vs external DSLs

- Marjan Mernik et al. *When and How to Develop Domain Specific Languages*, 2005, [MernikEtAl05](#).
- Martin Fowler, *Implementing an Internal DSL*, 2007 [Fowler07](#).

Aspect-Oriented Programming

- Gregor Kiczales et al. *Aspect-Oriented Programming*, 1997, [KiczalesEtAl97](#).
- Robert E. Filman, Daniel P. Friedman, *Aspect-Oriented Programming is Quantification and Obliviousness*, 2000, [FilmanFriedman00](#).

Literate Programming in the 21st Century

- Bentley, Knuth and McIlroy, *A Literate Program*, 1986, [BentleyEtAl86](#).
- Knuth, *Literate Programming*, 1984, [Knuth84](#).

Prototype-based vs class-based object-orientation

- James Noble, Brian Foote, *Attack of the Clones*, 2002, [NobleFoote02](#).
- Henry Lieberman, *Using Prototypical Objects to Implement Shared Behavior in Object Oriented Systems*, 1986, [Lieberman86](#).

Design by Contract

- Bertrand Meyer, *Applying "Design by Contract"*, 1992, [Meyer92](#).
- Jean-Marc Jézéquel, Bertrand Meyer, *Design by Contract: The Lessons of Ariane*, 1997, [JezequelMeyer97](#).

Fluent or Law-of-Demeter?

- Martin Fowler, *FluentInterface*, 2005, [Fowler05](#).
- Karl J. Lieberherr, Ian M. Holland, *Assuring Good Style for Object-Oriented Programs*, 1989, [LieberherrHolland89](#).

Reviewing

- Next to paper: write a review of someone else's paper
- Structured review
- We'll use EasyChair (pending approval)
- Paper and review not graded, by okayed.

Lab assignment

Aangifte inkomstenbelasting 2010 – Persoonlijke gegevens

Persoonlijke gegevens

✓ Persoonlijke gegevens: Bla
✓ Persoonlijke gegevens: Blasa

✓ Box 1: werk en woning
Box 1: andere inkomsten
Box 1: uitgaven lijfrenten e.d.
Box 2: aanmerkelijk belang
Box 3: sparen en beleggen

Aftrekposten
Vrijstellingen en verminderingen
Bijzondere situaties
Te verrekenen bedragen

Heffingskortingen: Bla

Overzicht: Bla

Voorlopige aanslag 2011
Naar ondertekenen met DigiD

IB 602E - ZZ01FOL2A

Naam: Bla
Telefoonnummer: 323
Burgerservicenummer/sofnummer: 1430.95.067
Geboortedatum: 11-02-1979
Nummer belastingconsulent:
Hebt u van ons bericht ontvangen om aangifte te doen? ☐ Ja ☒ Nee
Wilt u een rekeningnummer opgeven of wijzigen? ☐ Ja ☒ Nee
Uw persoonlijke situatie in 2010: Een deel van 2010 getrou...
Periode dat u getrouwd was in 2010: 01-02 03-05
Woonde u voor of na deze periode samen met uw echtgenoot? ☐ Ja ☒ Nee
Willen u en uw echtgenoot heel 2010 als fiscale partners worden beschouwd? ☐ Ja ☒ Nee
Woonde u buiten de periode dat u getrouwd was nog met iemand anders samen? Bijvoorbeeld met uw kind van 27 jaar of ouder? ☐ Ja ☒ Nee

Akkoord

Stoppen Instellingen Rekenmachine Help Printen Open bestand

Form

1040

Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service

(99)

U.S. Individual Income Tax Return

2012

OMB No. 1545-0074

IRS Use Only—Do not write or staple in this space.

For the year Jan. 1–Dec. 31, 2012, or other tax year beginning

, 2012, ending

, 20

See separate instructions.

Your first name and initial

Last name

Your social security number

If a joint return, spouse's first name and initial

Last name

Spouse's social security number

Home address (number and street). If you have a P.O. box, see instructions.

Apt. no.

City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. If you have a foreign address, also complete spaces below (see instructions).

Presidential Election Campaign

Foreign country name

Foreign province/state/county

Foreign postal code

Check here if you, or your spouse if filing jointly, want \$3 to go to this fund. Checking a box below will not change your tax or refund.

You

Spouse

Filing Status

Check only one box.

1

Single

2

Married filing jointly (even if only one had income)

3

Married filing separately. Enter spouse's SSN above and full name here.▶

4

Head of household (with qualifying person). (See instructions.) If the qualifying person is a child but not your dependent, enter this child's name here.▶

5

Qualifying widow(er) with dependent child

Exemptions

If more than four dependents, see instructions and check here▶

6a

Yourself. If someone can claim you as a dependent, do not check box 6a.

b

Spouse

c

Dependents:

(1) First nameLast name(2) Dependent's social security number(3) Dependent's relationship to you(4)

if child under age 17 qualifying for child tax credit (see instructions)

d

Total number of exemptions claimed

Boxes checked on 6a and 6b

No. of children on 6c who:

• lived with you

• did not live with you due to divorce or separation (see instructions)

Dependents on 6c not entered above

Add numbers on lines above▶

Income

Attach Form(s) W-2 here. Also attach Forms W-2G and 1099-R if tax was withheld.

If you did not get a W-2, see instructions.

Enclose, but do not attach, any payment. Also, please use Form 1040-V.

7Wages, salaries, tips, etc. Attach Form(s) W-2

8aTaxable interest. Attach Schedule B if required

bTax-exempt interest. Do not include on line 8a

8b

9aOrdinary dividends. Attach Schedule B if required

bQualified dividends

9b

10Taxable refunds, credits, or offsets of state and local income taxes

11Alimony received

12Business income or (loss). Attach Schedule C or C-EZ

13Capital gain or (loss). Attach Schedule D if required. If not required, check here▶

14Other gains or (losses). Attach Form 4797

15aIRA distributions

15a

bTaxable amount

15b

16aPensions and annuities

16a

bTaxable amount

16b

17Rental real estate, royalties, partnerships, S corporations, trusts, etc. Attach Schedule E

18Farm income or (loss). Attach Schedule F

19Unemployment compensation

20aSocial security benefits

20a

bTaxable amount

20b

21Other income. List type and amount

21

22Combine the amounts in the far right column for lines 7 through 21. This is your total income▶

22

Adjusted Gross Income

23Reserved

24Certain business expenses of reservists, performing artists, and fee-basis government officials. Attach Form 2106 or 2106-EZ

24

25Health savings account deduction. Attach Form 8889

25

26Moving expenses. Attach Form 3903

26

27Deductible part of self-employment tax. Attach Schedule SE

27

28Self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, and qualified plans

28

29Self-employed health insurance deduction

29

30Penalty on early withdrawal of savings

30

31aAlimony paidb Recipient's SSN▶

31a

32IRA deduction

32

33Student loan interest deduction

33

34Reserved

34

35Domestic production activities deduction. Attach Form 8903

35

36Add lines 23 through 35

36

37Subtract line 36 from line 22. This is your adjusted gross income▶

37

For Disclosure, Privacy Act, and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see separate instructions.

Cat. No. 11320B

Form 1040 (2012)

Questionnaire Language (QL)

- A DSL for specifying questionnaires

```
form Box1HouseOwning {  
  "Did you sell a house in 2010?" hasSoldHouse: boolean  
  "Did you buy a house in 2010?" hasBoughtHouse: boolean  
  "Did you enter a loan for maintenance/reconstruction?"  
hasMaintLoan: boolean  
  if (hasSoldHouse) {  
    "Private debts for the sold house:" privateDebt: money  
    "Price the house was sold for:" sellingPrice: money  
    "Value residue:" valueResidue = sellingPrice - privateDebt  
  }  
}
```

Did you sell a house in 2010? ☒

Did you buy a house in 2010? ☐

Did you enter a loan for maintenance/reconstruction? ☐

Private debts for the sold house:

20

Price the house was sold for:

200

Value residue:

180



Page

[Discussion](#)

Read

[View source](#)

[View history](#)

LWC 2013

Navigation

[Main page](#)

[Community portal](#)

[LWC 2013](#)

[LWC 2012](#)

[LWC 2011](#)

[Presentation Videos](#)

[Recent changes](#)

[Random page](#)

[Help](#)

Contents [\[hide\]](#)

[1 Language Workbench Challenge 2013](#)

[1.1 The assignment](#)

[1.2 Reference implementation](#)

[1.3 Submitting and participating](#)

[1.4 Demonstrations](#)

[1.5 Program - April 9th, 2013](#)

[1.6 Registration](#)

[1.7 Important dates](#)

[1.8 Announced participants](#)

Language Workbench Challenge 2013

Part I: front end

- Parser: text to abstract syntax tree (AST)
- AST hierarchy
- Type checker
- Two variants:
 - Java
 - Rascal (but: you have to do a little more)

Java

- Use one of the provided parsing skeletons:
Rats!, Jacc, ANTLR
- Design AST class hierarchy (required!)
- Visitor/interpreter for checking well-formedness



Rascal

- Rascal is *designed* for making DSLs:
 - syntax definition
 - AST data types
 - type checking
 - desugaring
 - IDE features
- You have to do all of this.



outline

error
marking

The screenshot shows the Eclipse IDE interface with the Rascal QL editor. The main editor displays the file `test.q1` with the following code:

```
1 form Box1HouseOwning {  
2   "Did you sell a house in 2010?"  
3   hasSoldHouse: boolean  
4   "Did you by a house in 2010?"  
5   hasBoughtHouse: boolean  
6   "Did you enter a loan for maintenance?"  
7   hasMaintLoan: boolean  
8   if (hasSoldHouse) {  
9     "Private debts for the sold house:"  
10    privateDebt: boolean  
11    "Price the house was sold for:"  
12    sellingPrice: money  
13    "Value residue:"  
14    valueResidue = sellingPrice - privateDebt  
15  }  
16 }
```

Line 14 has a red error marker (X) next to it, indicating an error. The variable `privateDebt` is underlined in red, suggesting a type mismatch or undefined variable.

The Package Explorer on the left shows the project structure, including the `QL` project and its source files.

The Outline view on the right shows the structure of the `Box1HouseOwning` form, including the `if` block and its nested elements.

The Problems view at the bottom shows the error details for the `privateDebt` variable.

Memory usage at the bottom indicates 237M of 443M.

Part 2: Back end

- Implement questionnaire engine
- GUI representation of questionnaire
- Java: build an *interpreter*
- Rascal: build a *compiler*
- See *course info* for more detail

Advanced track

- For excellent students
- = Rascal variant
- + additional layout and styling language QLS
- Close collaboration with CWI (= me)
- *See course info for details*

Github

- Assignment to be completed *individually*
 - (except advanced track)
- <http://github.com/software-engineering-amsterdam/sea-of-ql/>
- Use of this repository is **required!**
- Email your Github name to me for access

Grading of lab assignments

- Functionality
- Tests
- Simplicity
- Modularity
- Layout and style
- Separation of concerns



Grading of la assignment en

- Functionality
- Testability
- Simplicity
- Modularity
- Layout and style
- Separation of concerns



Some advice up-front

- Naming, layout, indentation
- Encapsulation, modularity, separation of concerns, reuse
- Don't repeat yourself (DRY)
- Library and tool selection and use
- Unit testing

More advice

- Use asserts sensibly
- No global, static, non-final variables
- You ain't going to need it (YAGNI)
- Avoid premature optimization
- Use comments for rationale
- *Compiling **and** working code*

Grading (ctd.)

- First part: your grade is *indicative*
 - hint to improve your code
- Second part: we review all code
 - this will be your *final* grade for the lab
- Grading is on-site: *you* show your code
- Grade is not important, improvement is

Passing this course

- Be present at all lectures
- Pass the 2 theory tests
- Successfully complete lab assignments
 - = beautiful, working code
- Write a good research paper and review
- Final grade: *FinalLab*

Schedule

Date	Lecture	Tests/Grading
7-1	Introduction	
14-1	Grammars and parsing	
21-1	Domain-specific languages	Part I
28-1	Code quality	Test I
4-2	Debugging (maybe)	
11-2	<i>Guest lecture</i>	Test II
18-2	<i>Guest lecture</i>	Part II
25-2	Extra paper writing time	due: 3-3-12

Concluding

- All information is in Blackboard under *Course Information* (links to Github wiki)
- Primary contact = me (storm@cw.nl)

What's next

- study QL exercise
- get access to Github
- select study skeleton code
- setup you project using Eclipse
- start reading papers
- start programming!