

# Code Generation Witchcraft

**And Some Pharo Visitor Stuff**



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# Visitors

## And Abstract Syntax Tree (AST)

**aMethod**

collection do:

[ :anArgument |  
anArgument doStuff ]

**visitBlockNode:** aBlockNode

self visitArgumentNodes: aBlockNode arguments. → [ :anArgument |  
self visitNode: aBlockNode body → anArgument doStuff ]

# Visitors

## AST Visitors Are Everywhere

- Compiler
- Code Styler
- Parse Tree Searcher
- Code Formator
- ~50 visitor **subclasses** in the base image



# Visitors

## Example of OCScopesCollector

- 2 Test classes as users
- 4 **very** simple methods
- Do we really need to reify it?

# Anonymous Visitor

## The Visitor Pattern Without Creating Classes

```
visitor := RBAnonymousVisitor new.  
counter := 0.  
visitor registerBlock: [ :aNode | counter := counter + 1 ]  
    for: #messageNode.  
aMethod acceptVisitor: visitor.
```

# Anonymous Visitor

## Add-hoc Visitor Reification

```
visitor := RBAnonymousVisitor new.  
counter := 0.  
visitor registerBlock: [ :aNode | counter := counter + 1 ]  
    for: #messageNode.  
aMethod acceptVisitor: visitor.  
  
visitor reifyAs: #MessageNodeCounterVisitor
```

# Visitor Generator

## Basic Visitors for Any Hierarchy

VisitorsGenerator generateForRootClass: YourHierarchyClassRoot

- Abstract Visitor
- SubclassResponsibility Visitor
- Superclass Visitor
- Anonymous Visitor ?
- Trait Versions ?

<https://github.com/hogoww/VisitorGenerator>

# Pharo Code Generation

## Basic

PharoDays compile:

'initialize

collection := OrderedCollection new

'Initializing done !' crTrace'.



# Pharo Code Generation

## Format

```
instVarName := #collection.  
PharoDays compile: (  
  'initialize  
    {1} := OrderedCollection new  
    ''Initializing done !'' crTrace'  
  format: { instVarName })
```

# Pharo Code Generation

## Format but Better

```
instVarName := #collection.  
PharoDays compile: (  
  'initialize  
    {aCollection} := OrderedCollection new  
    ''Initializing done !'' crTrace'  
  format: { #aCollection -> instVarName } asDictionary)
```

# Pharo Code Generation

## With a Stream

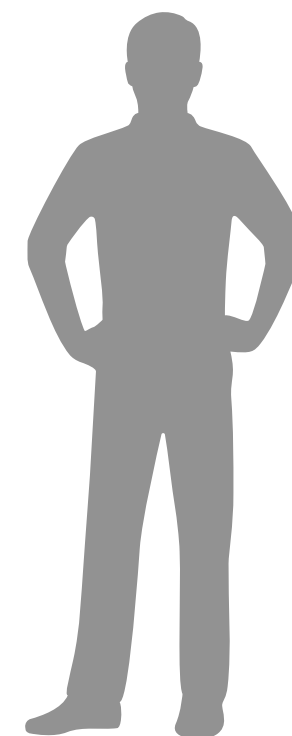
```
aCollectionName := #collection.  
methodBody := String streamContents: [ :stream |  
    stream << 'initialize' ; cr.  
    stream << aCollectionName << ':='  
        << 'OrderedCollection new' ; cr.  
    stream << '"Initializing done !" crTrace'].  
PharoDays compile: methodBody.
```

# Plain Pharo Code Generation

## How About With a Compiler ?

```
aCollection := #collection.  
sourceAST := #initialize asMethodWithBody: [  
    aCollection := OrderedCollection new.  
    'Initializing done !' crTrace.  
]  
PharoDays compile: sourceAST printString.
```

Some Colleague



It's kinda cool,  
But it's witchcraft !

# Plain Pharo Code Generation

## In a Nutshell

Used as replacement

Here

`aCollection := #collection.`

`sourceAST := #initialize asMethodWithBody: [`

`aCollection := OrderedCollection new.`

`'Initializing done !' crTrace.`

`]`

`PharoDays compile: sourceAST printString.`

Never executed

Parsing

# Plain Pharo Code Generation

## Why is it Witchcraft?

The image shows two variable inspectors from the Pharo IDE. The left inspector is for a `FullBlockClosure` object, and the right is for a `Context` object. Both have tabs for 'Source code', 'Raw', 'Breakpoints', and 'Meta'. The 'Raw' tab is selected in both.

**Left Inspector: a FullBlockClosure ([ aColl...]**

Variable	Value
self	[ aCollection := OrderedCollection r...
outerContext	AClass>>m
compiledBlock	a CompiledBlock: [ aCollection := O...
numArgs	0
receiver	an AClass
1	an Array [1 item] (#collection)

**Right Inspector: a Context (AClass>>m)**

Variable	Value
self	AClass>>m
sender	UndefinedObject>>DoIt
pc	70
stackp	2
method	AClass>>#m
closureOrNil	nil
receiver	an AClass
1	nil
2	an Array [1 item] (#collection)

Green dashed boxes highlight the `outerContext` in the left inspector and the `receiver`, `1`, and `2` in the right inspector.

# Plain Pharo Code Generation

## Advantages

- + Compiler checks
- + Contextual variable expansions
- + More readable
- + Witchcraft
- Pharo Implementation dependent
- Image tooling (Code styling, Critics...)



# Plain Pharo Code Generation

## Image Tooling

```
! methods do: [ :m |
  | visitMethodName nodeKind methodSource |
  visitMethodName := m selector.
  nodeKind := (visitMethodName last: visitMethodName size - 5) uncapitalized.
  nodeKind := nodeKind first: nodeKind size - 1.
  register add: nodeKind.
  methodSource := visitMethodName asMethodWithBody: [ :aKindOfNode |
    visits at: #aKindOfNode ifPresent: [ :aBlock | aBlock cull: aKindOfNode ].
    ^ super visitMethodName: { aKindOfNode }
  ] withArguments: { #aKindOfNode -> nodeKind } asDictionary.
  [ RBAnonymousVisitor compile: methodSource asString classified: m protocol ] on: Exception do: [:e| e pass ]
].

register := register asArray sort
```

12/42 [17]

! [visitMethodName:] Super and Self Messages sent but not implemented X ?

! Long methods X ?

! Sends different super message X ?

! Eliminate unnecessary not's X ?

! [visitMethodName:] Messages sent but not implemented X ?

! Uses do: instead of collect: or select:s X ?

! Rewrite super messages to self messages X ?

! Uses do: instead of collect: or select:s X ?



# Plain Pharo Code Generation

## Compiler Checks

PharoDays compile:

'initialize

collection := OrderedCollection new  
'Initializing done !' crTrace'.

instVarName := #collection.

methodBody := String streamContents: [ :stream |

stream << 'initialize' ; cr.

stream << tempName << ':='

<< 'OrderedCollection new' : cr.

stream << '''Initializing done !' crTrace'].

PharoDays compile: methodBody.

instVarName := #collection.

PharoDays compile: (

'initialize

{1} := OrderedCollection new  
'Initializing done !' crTrace'

format: { instVarName })

# Plain Pharo Code Generation

## Variable Expansion in Messages

```
initializerMethods := #(initializeServer initializeClient initializeUsers).  
sourceAST := #initializeEverything  
asMethodWithBody: [ self initializerMethods ].
```



```
initializeEverything  
  self initializeServer.  
  self initializeClient.  
  self initializeUsers
```

# Plain Pharo Code Generation

## Variable Expansion in Literals

```
kindsOfNodes := self computeKindsOfNodes.  
sourceAST := #kindOfNodeExists:  
    asMethodWithBody: [ :aKindOfNode |  
        ^ #(kindsOfNodes) includes: aKindOfNode ].
```



kindOfNodeExists: aKindOfNodes

```
^ #( 'argumentNode' 'argumentNodes' 'argumentVariableNode' 'arrayNode' 'assignmentNode' 'blockNode' 'cascadeNode'  
'classVariableNode' 'englobingErrorNode' 'globalNode' 'globalVariableNode' 'instanceVariableNode'  
'literalArrayNode' 'literalNode' 'literalValueNode' 'literalVariableNode' 'localVariableNode' 'messageNode'  
'methodNameNode' 'node' 'parseErrorNode' 'patternBlockNode' 'patternWrapperBlockNode' 'pragmaNode' 'returnNode' 'selectorNode'  
'selfNode' 'sequenceNode' 'slotInitializationNode' 'storeIntoTempNode' 'storePopIntoTempNode' 'superNode'  
'temporaryDeclarationNode' 'temporaryNode' 'temporaryNodes' 'temporaryVariableNode' 'thisContextNode' 'unreachableStatement'  
'variableNode' ) includes: aKindOfNodes
```

# Plain Pharo Code Generation

## User Projects

- Anonymous Visitors (<https://github.com/hogoww/AnonymousVisitor>)
- Visitor Generator (<https://github.com/hogoww/VisitorGenerator>)
- C-AST (<https://github.com/hogoww/C-AST/>)

<https://github.com/juliendelplanque/PharoCodeGenerator>

# Conclusion

- Anonymous Visitors !
- We can use blocks to generate Pharo Code
- Pharo Witchcraft

```
visitor := RBAnonymousVisitor new.  
counter := 0.  
visitor registerBlock: [ :aNode | counter := counter + 1 ]  
for: #messageNode.  
aMethod acceptVisitor: visitor.
```

```
visitor reifyAs: #MessageNodeCounterVisitor
```

```
aCollection := #collection.  
sourceAST := #initialize asMethodWithBody: [  
    aCollection := OrderedCollection new.  
    'Initializing done !' crTrace.  
]  
PharoDays compile: sourceAST printString.
```



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