Don't just code it–Generate it

Code Generators are the new "New”: BIML, JavaScript frameworks, .NET scaffolding, even the humble templates provided by SSMS for views, stored procedures, functions.

This talk discusses why you should consider generating code and how to get started.

Table-driven applications allow one program to handle changing business needs. Metadata-driven code generation takes you a giant step further. If you can describe your code with an algorithm that operates against structured metadata, you can get a computer to produce the code.

* **Source to Target mapping** documents can be used to generate the code that does the mapping.
* **Service Broker activation stored procedures** have a clearly defined structure. They can be mass-produced.
* **Standard CRUD stored procedures** can be stamped out cookie-cutter fashion.
* **Business rules** can be encoded in data and the code to implement them can be manufactured.

One advantage of this approach is that the errors generated code contains are systematic. Fix the errors at the generator level and All the code now works.

**Bottom line**: If the code is so boring that a computer can produce it, why not spend your talent doing something interesting?