

If you view this talk in PowerPoint, turn on comments (View | Comments in PowerPoint) to read remarks made during the talk but not included on the slide

Once you do this, you ought to see a comment attached to this slide (outside presentation mode) **Current Programming Practice**



In your favorite C++ environment:

wage_per_hour * number_of_hours = total_wage

Current Programming Practice



In your favorite C++ environment:

wage_per_hour*number_of_hours = total_wage
pointer manipulation



In your favorite Java environment:

```
class Main {
 public static void main(String args[]) {
  if (args.length != 1) {
   throw new InvalidInput("This program needs one argument.");
  System.out.println("You entered " + args[0]);
class InvalidInput extends RuntimeException {
 public InvalidInput(String mess) { super(mess); }
```



In your favorite Java environment:

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```

inner-class declaration

Current Programming Practice



In Pascal/Java/C++:

i = 0; do { read (j); if (j > 0) i = i + j; } while (j > 0) **Current Programming Practice**



In Pascal/Java/C++:

i = 0; do { read (j); if (j > 0) i = i+j; } while (j > 0) The sum of a sequence of positive numbers ispositivezeronegative























How to Produce the Best OO Programmers

Shriram Krishnamurthi Brown University and The TeachScheme! Project

Current Practice in Introductory Courses



- Teach the syntax of a currently fashionable programming language
- Use Emacs or commercial PE
- Show examplars of code and ask students to mimic
- Discuss algorithmic ideas (O(-))

Current Practice: Design vs Tinkering



- Syntax: too complex; must tinker
- Design: exposition of syntactic constructs takes the place of design guidelines
- Teaching standard algorithms doesn't replace a discipline of design

Lessons: The Trinity



- Simple programming language
- Programming environment for students
- A discipline of design
 - algorithmic sophistication *follows* from design principles

TeachScheme!



How to Design Programs (methodology)



Scheme (language)

DrScheme (environment)





Cleans up the MIT's Scheme language



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- Not MIT's programming environment



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- Most importantly: not SICP pedagogy



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 - does not discuss program design



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 - has an outdated idea of OO programming



- Cleans up the MIT's Scheme language
- Not MIT's programming environment
- Most importantly: not SICP pedagogy
 - fails the normal student
 - does not discuss program design
 - has an outdated idea of OO programming
 - ignores applications and other attractions



Part I: Programming Language





- Scheme's notation is simple:
 - either atomic or (<op> <arg> ...)
 - 3 (+12) (+(*34)5) (*(/59)(-t32))



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- it's just the rules of algebra

- no fussing with callling conventions, compilation models, stack frames, activation records, etc.
- exploits what students already know



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- no fussing with callling conventions, compilation models, stack frames, activation records, etc.
- exploits what students already know

With Scheme, we can focus on ideas

Learning the Language







Students write full programs from the first minute

Learning the Language



- Students write full programs from the first minute
- Only five language constructs introduced in the entire semester

Learning the Language



- Students write full programs from the first minute
- Only five language constructs introduced in the entire semester
- Takes < 1 week to adapt to prefix
 no need to memorize precedence tables!

And Yet ...



- Simple notational mistakes produce
 - error messages beyond the students' knowledge
 - strange results -- without warning
- ... and even in Scheme (let alone Java/C++/etc.) there are just too many features




- Language 1: first-order, functional
 - function definition and application
 - conditional expression
 - structure definition



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- Language 2: local function definitions



- Language 1: first-order, functional
 - function definition and application
 - conditional expression
 - structure definition
- Language 2: local function definitions
- Language 3: functions and effects
 - higher-order functions
 - mutation and sequencing

Programming Languages







• Layer language by *pedagogic* needs





- Layer language by *pedagogic* needs
- Put students in a knowledgeappropriate context





- Layer language by pedagogic needs
- Put students in a knowledgeappropriate context
- Focus on design relative to context





- Layer language by pedagogic needs
- Put students in a knowledgeappropriate context
- Focus on design relative to context

Result of over five years of design



Part II: Programming Environment





Enforce all language levels



- Enforce all language levels
- Safe, so errors are trapped



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- Safe, so errors are trapped
- Highlight location of dynamic errors



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- Enable instructors to provide code not at student's level



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- Safe, so errors are trapped
- Highlight location of dynamic errors
- Enable instructors to provide code not at student's level
- Facilitate interactive exploration
- Cross-platform compatibility
- How about a "Break" button?





Layer-oriented languages and errors



- Layer-oriented languages and errors
- Highlighting of dynamic errors



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- Explanation of scoping rules



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- Interesting values (even pictures)



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- cross-platform GUIs, networking, etc.



- Layer-oriented languages and errors
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- Interesting values (even pictures)
- Teachpacks
- cross-platform GUIs, networking, etc.
- Oh, and that "Break" button



Part III: Design Methodology

Program Design for Beginners



- Implicitly foster basic good habits
- Rational in its design
 its steps explain the code's structure
- Accessible to beginner

Design Recipes





Design Recipes





Design Recipes





IMPERATIVE: Teach Model-View Separation





Given data, the central theme:

Data Drive Designs

From the structure of the data, we can derive the basic structure of the program ... So let's do!

Design Recipes: Class Definitions



- use rigorous but not formal language
- start with the familiar
 - basic sets: numbers, symbols, booleans
 - intervals on numbers
- extend as needed
 - structures
 - unions
 - self-references
 - vectors (much later)

Design Recipes: Class Definitions (2)



Consider the lowly armadillo:

- it has a name
- it may be alive (but in Texas ...)

Design Recipes: Class Definitions (2)



Consider the lowly armadillo:

- it has a name
- it may be alive (but in Texas ...)

(define-struct armadillo (name alive?))

An *armadillo* is a structure:

(make-armadillo symbol boolean)


A *zoo animal* is either • an armadillo, or • a tiger, or

• a giraffe

Each of these classes of animals has its own definition





A list-of-zoo-animals is either



A *list-of-zoo-animals* is eitherempty



A list-of-zoo-animals is either

- empty
- (cons animal *list-of-zoo-animals*)



A list-of-zoo-animals is either
empty
(cons animal list-of-zoo-animals)



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(cons animal list-of-zoo-animals)

Let's make examples:



A list-of-zoo-animals is either
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Let's make examples: • empty



A list-of-zoo-animals is either
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Let's make examples:

- empty
- (cons (make-armadillo 'Bubba true) empty)



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Let's make examples:

- empty
- (cons (make-armadillo 'Bubba true) empty)
- (cons (make-tiger 'Tony 'FrostedFlakes)



A list-of-zoo-animals is either
empty
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Let's make examples:

- empty
- (cons (make-armadillo 'Bubba true) empty)
- (cons (make-tiger 'Tony 'FrostedFlakes)

(cons (make-armadillo)



A list-of-zoo-animals is either
empty
(cons animal list-of-zoo-animals)

Let's make examples:

- empty
- (cons (make-armadillo 'Bubba true) empty)
- (cons (make-tiger 'Tony 'FrostedFlakes) (cons (make-armadillo)

empty))



;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ??? (define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA) ...)







;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ??? (define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA) ...)

is it conditionally defined?



;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ??? (define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA) (cond

[<<condition>> <<answer>>]

[<<condition>> <<answer>>]))







;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ??? (define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA) (cond

[<<condition>> <<answer>>] [<<condition>> <<answer>>])) what are the sub-classes?



```
;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ???
(define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA)
  (cond
  [ (empty? a-loZA) <<answer>> ]
```

[(cons? a-loZA) <<answer>>]))





;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ??? (define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA) (cond

[(empty? a-loZA) <<answer>>] [(cons? a-loZA) <<answer>>])) are any of the inputs structures?





```
;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ???
(define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA)
      (cond
      [ (empty? a-loZA) ... ]
      [ (cons? a-loZA) ... (first a-loZA) ...
      ... (rest a-loZA) ... ]))
```







```
;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ???
(define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA)
(cond
```

```
[ (empty? a-loZA) ... ]
```

```
[ (cons? a-loZA) ... (first a-loZA) ...
```

```
... (rest a-loZA) ... ]))
```

is the class definition self-referential?

A list of zoo animals is either

- empty
- (cons animal a-list-of-zoo-animals)

;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ??? (define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA) (cond

- [(empty? a-loZA) ...]
- [(cons? a-loZA) ... (first a-loZA) ...

... (rest a-loZA) ...)





 A template reflects the structure of the class definitions (mostly for input, often for input)



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- This match helps designers, readers, modifiers, maintainers alike



- A template reflects the structure of the class definitions (mostly for input, often for input)
- This match helps designers, readers, modifiers, maintainers alike
- Greatly simplifies function definition



```
;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ???
(define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA)
(cond
[ (empty? a-loZA) ... ]
[ (cons? a-loZA) ... (first a-loZA) ...
... (fun-for-zoo (rest a-loZA)) ... ]))
```



```
;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ???
(define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA)
(cond
[ (empty? a-loZA) ... ]
[ (cons? a-loZA) ... (first a-loZA) ...
... (fun-for-zoo (rest a-loZA)) ... ]))
```

;; zoo-size : list-of-zoo-animals -> number (define (zoo-size a-loZA)

(cond

[(empty? a-loZA) **0**]

[(cons? a-loZA) (+ 1 (zoo-size (rest a-loZA)))]))



```
;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ???
(define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA)
(cond
[ (empty? a-loZA) ... ]
[ (cons? a-loZA) ... (first a-loZA) ...
... (fun-for-zoo (rest a-loZA)) ... ]))
```



```
;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ???
(define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA)
(cond
[ (empty? a-loZA) ... ]
[ (cons? a-loZA) ... (first a-loZA) ...
... (fun-for-zoo (rest a-loZA)) ... ]))
```

;; has-armadillo? : list-of-zoo-animals -> boolean (define (has-armadillo? a-loZA)

(cond

[(empty? a-loZA) false]

[(cons? a-loZA) (or (armadillo? (first a-loZA))

(has-armadillo? (rest a-loZA)))]))

Design Recipes: Defining Functions



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- Templates remind students of all the information that is available
 - which cases
 - which field values, argument values
 - what natural recursions can compute

Design Recipes: Defining Functions



- Templates remind students of all the information that is available
 - which cases
 - which field values, argument values
 - what natural recursions can compute
- The act of a function definition is
 - to choose which computations to use
 - to combine the resulting values

The Design Recipe







data analysis and class definition

The Design Recipe



- data analysis and class definition
- contract, purpose statement, header

The Design Recipe



- data analysis and class definition
- contract, purpose statement, header
- in-out (effect) examples


- data analysis and class definition
- contract, purpose statement, header
- in-out (effect) examples
- function template



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Template Construction



- basic data, intervals of numbers
- structures
- unions
- self-reference, mutual references
- circularity

Intermezzo

. . .



Which sorting method to teach first?

- Selection sort
- Insertion sort
- Quicksort
- Heap sort
- Mergesort
- Bubble sort

Special Topic: Generative Recursion



Generative recursion: the recursive sub-problem is determined dynamically rather than statically

Special Topic: Generative Recursion



Generative recursion: the recursive sub-problem is determined dynamically rather than statically

What is the base case?



Generative recursion: the recursive sub-problem is determined dynamically rather than statically

- What is the base case?
- What ensures termination?



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- What is the base case?
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- Who provides the insight?



Generative recursion: the recursive sub-problem is determined dynamically rather than statically

- What is the base case?
- What ensures termination?
- Who provides the insight?

Special case: not reusable!



Factor out commonalities in

- contracts
 - corresponds to parametric polymorphism
- function bodies
 - leads to inheritance and overriding

Design Recipes: Conclusion



- Get students used to discipline from the very first day
- Use scripted question-and-answer game until they realize they can do it on their own
- Works especially well for structural solutions



Part IV: From Scheme to Java

or,

"But What Does All This Have to do With OOP?"



- focus: objects and method invocation
- basic operations:
 - creation
 - select field
 - mutate field
- select method via "polymorphism"



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 structures and functions



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 - recognize kind



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- structures and functions
- basic operations:
 - creation
 - select field
 - mutate field
 - recognize kind
- f(o) becomes o.f()

Scheme to Java: OO Programming



- develop class and interface hierarchy
- allocate code of function to proper subclass

Scheme to Java: OO Programming



- develop class and interface hierarchy
- allocate code of function to proper subclass

 develop class definitions Scheme to Java: OO Programming



- develop class and interface hierarchy
- allocate code of function to proper subclass

- develop class definitions
- allocate code of function to proper conditional clause

Scheme to Java: Class Hierarchy









Scheme to Java: Code Allocation

- ;; fun-for-zoo : list-of-zoo-animals -> ??? (define (fun-for-zoo a-loZA)
 - (cond
 - [(empty? a-loZA)
 - [(cons? a-loZA) ... (first a-loZA)
 - (rest a-loZA) ...)





- Design recipes work identically to produce well-designed OO programs
- The differences are notational
- The differences are instructive

The resulting programs use standard design patterns

Why not just Java first?







Complex notation, complex mistakes





- Complex notation, complex mistakes
- No PE supports stratified Java

Why not just Java first?



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- Design recipes drown in syntax

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Scheme to Java: Ketchup & Caviar



abstract class List_Zoo_Animal {
 int fun_for_list();

class Cons extends List_Zoo_Animal {
 Zoo_Animal first;
 List_Zoo_Animal rest;

int fun_for_list() {
 return 1 + rest.fun_for_list();

class Empty
extends List_Zoo_Animal {
 int fun_for_list() {
 return 0;

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int fun_for_list() {
 return 1 + rest.fun_for_list();

class Empty
extends List_Zoo_Animal {
 int fun_for_list() {
 return 0;
 l
}

This doesn't include the code needed to actually *run* the program!



Part V: Experiences








#2:



File systems by iterative refinement

A directory is a structure

(make-dir symbol list-of-file/dir)

A file-or-directory is either

- a file, or
- a directory

A file is a symbol

A list-of-file/dir is either

- empty
- (cons file-or-directory list-of-file/dir)



#3: A directory is a structure (make-dir symbol list-of-file/dir)
A file-or-directory is either
a file, or
a directory
A file is a structure (make-file symbol number list-of-values)
A list-of-file/dir is either

• empty

• (cons file-or-directory list-of-file/dir)



The functions:

- number-of-files
- disk-usage
- tree-of-disk-usage
- find-file

. . .

- all-file-and-directory-names
- empty-directories



















#3: A directory is a structure (make-dir symbol list-of-file/dir)
A file-or-directory is either
a file, or
a directory
A file is a structure (make-file symbol number list-of-values)

- empty
- (cons file-or-directory list-of-file/dir)





Sample Exercise







Most students are helpless without the design recipe



- Most students are helpless without the design recipe
- The templates provide the basic structure of solutions



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- The templates provide the basic structure of solutions
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- With Teachpack, runs on file system
- Second midterm (7th/8th week)
- Exercise extends further (links, ...)



- All incoming students
- Life-long learners
- Accommodate industry long-term
- Work after two semesters



 All incoming students Level playing field, make 1st sem. useful

- Life-long learners
- Accommodate industry long-term
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Life-long learners

Minimize fashions

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• **OO**, components, etc.



 All incoming students Level playing field, make 1st sem. useful

Life-long learners

Minimize fashions

- Accommodate industry long-term
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• **OO**, components, etc.

C++ to Java, true OOP











comp sci introduction:

- TeachScheme curriculum
- good evaluations
- huge growth
- many different teachers



comp sci introduction:

- TeachScheme curriculum
- good evaluations
- huge growth
- many different teachers

applied comp introduction:

- C/C++ curriculum
- weak evaluations
- little growth
- several teachers





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 - find students from Scheme introduction perform better in 2nd course
 - now teach the Scheme introduction



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- Even faculty who prefer C/C++/Java
 - find students from Scheme introduction perform better in 2nd course
 - now teach the Scheme introduction
- Students with prior experience eventually understand how much the course adds to their basis
- Nearly half the Rice campus takes it!




Trained nearly 200 teachers/professors



- Trained nearly 200 teachers/professors
- Over 100 deployed and reuse it



- Trained nearly 200 teachers/professors
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- Immense help to algebra teachers



- Trained nearly 200 teachers/professors
- Over 100 deployed and reuse it
- Better basis for second courses
- Provides grading rubric
- Immense help to algebra teachers
- Much higher retention rate
 - especially among females





• Training good programmers does *not* mean starting them on currently fashionable languages and tools



- Training good programmers does *not* mean starting them on currently fashionable languages and tools
- Provide a strong, rigorous foundation
 - data-oriented thinking
 - value-oriented programming



- Training good programmers does *not* mean starting them on currently fashionable languages and tools
- Provide a strong, rigorous foundation
 - data-oriented thinking
 - value-oriented programming
- Then, and only then, expose to i/o details, current fashions, etc.





Training takes more than teaching some syntax and good examples



- Training takes more than teaching some syntax and good examples
- We must present students with
 - a simple, stratified language
 - an enforcing programming environment
 - a rational design recipe



- Training takes more than teaching some syntax and good examples
- We must present students with
 - a simple, stratified language
 - an enforcing programming environment
 - a rational design recipe
- Teach Scheme!







<u>Textbook</u>: published by MIT Press, available on-line



- <u>Textbook</u>: published by MIT Press, available on-line
- Problem sets and solutions



- <u>Textbook</u>: published by MIT Press, available on-line
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All other than paper book are free

Primary Project Personnel



- Matthias Felleisen Northeastern University
- Matthew Flatt University of Utah
- Robert Bruce Findler University of Chicago
- Shriram Krishnamurthi Brown University
 with
- Steve Bloch Adelphi University
- Kathi Fisler wpi

http://www.teach-scheme.org/