

DSLs in Groovy

Say what you mean,
Mean what you say



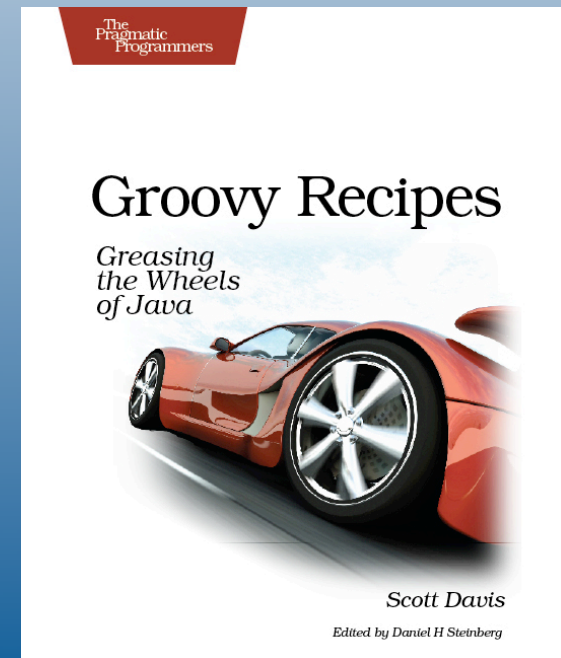
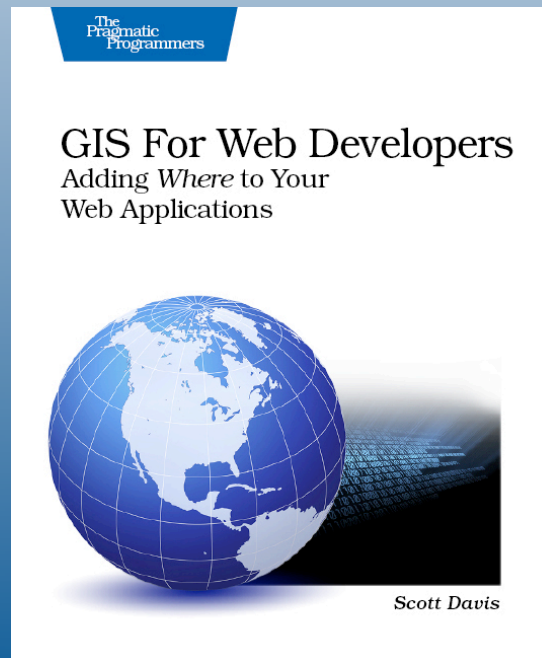
Scott Davis

<http://davisworld.org>

developerWorks.

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Mastering Grails: RESTful Grails



What is a
Domain Specific
Language?

DOMAÍN

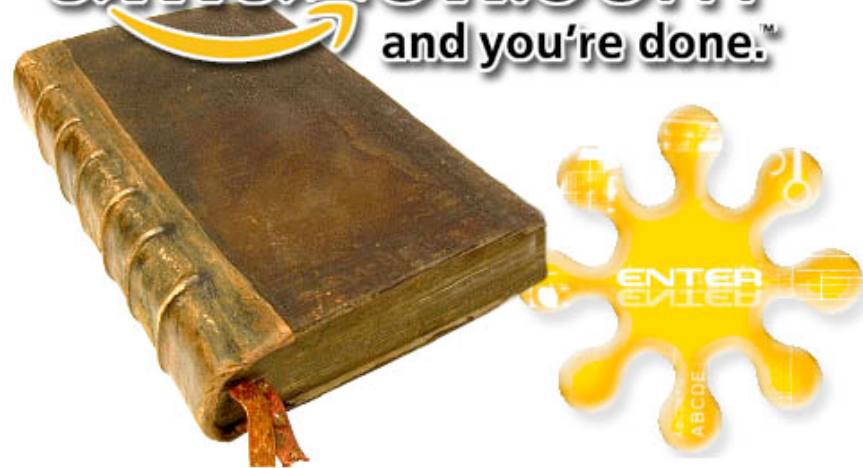


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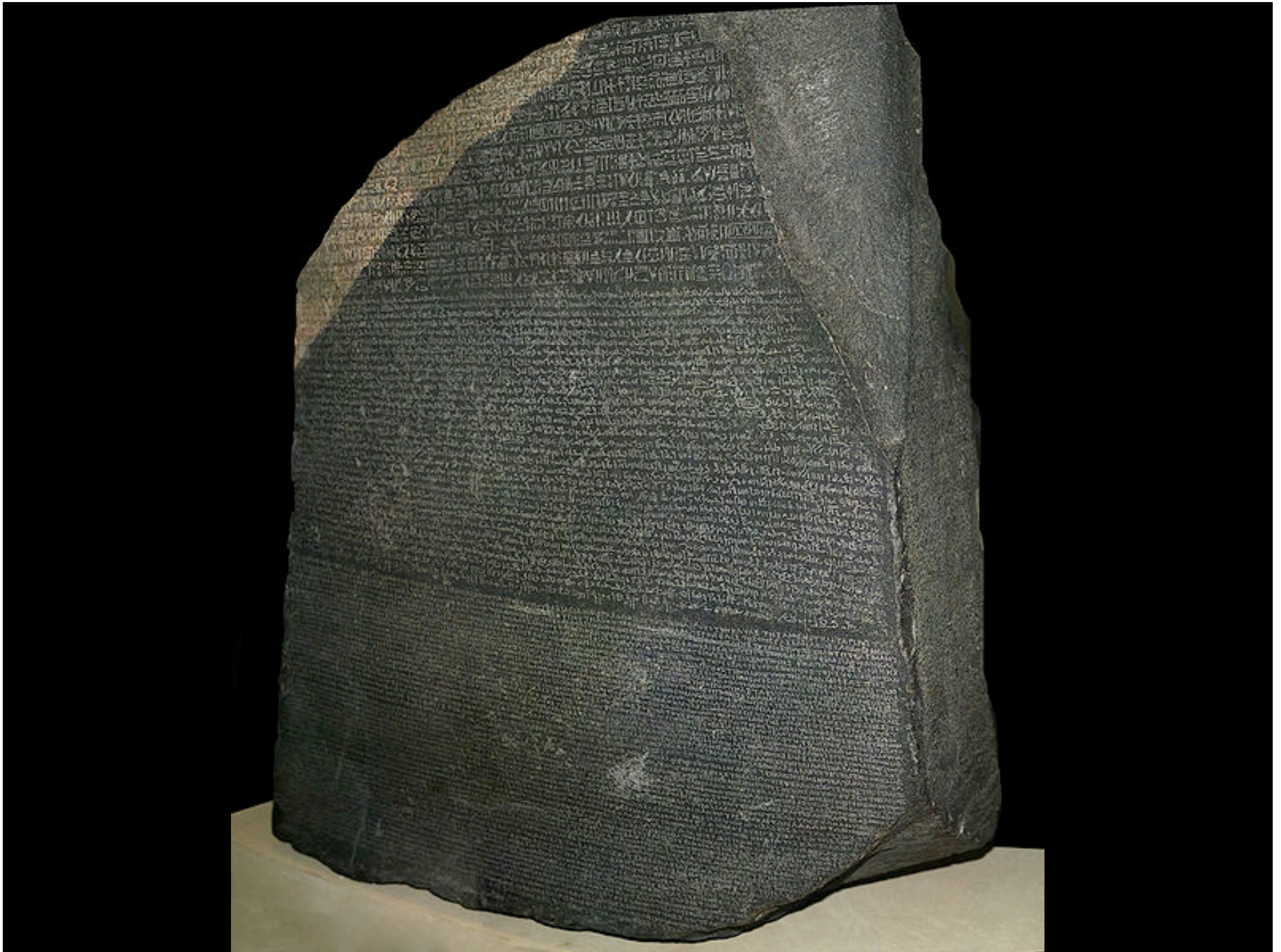


GARAGE SALE

Friday &
Saturday
only



ebay™



Language





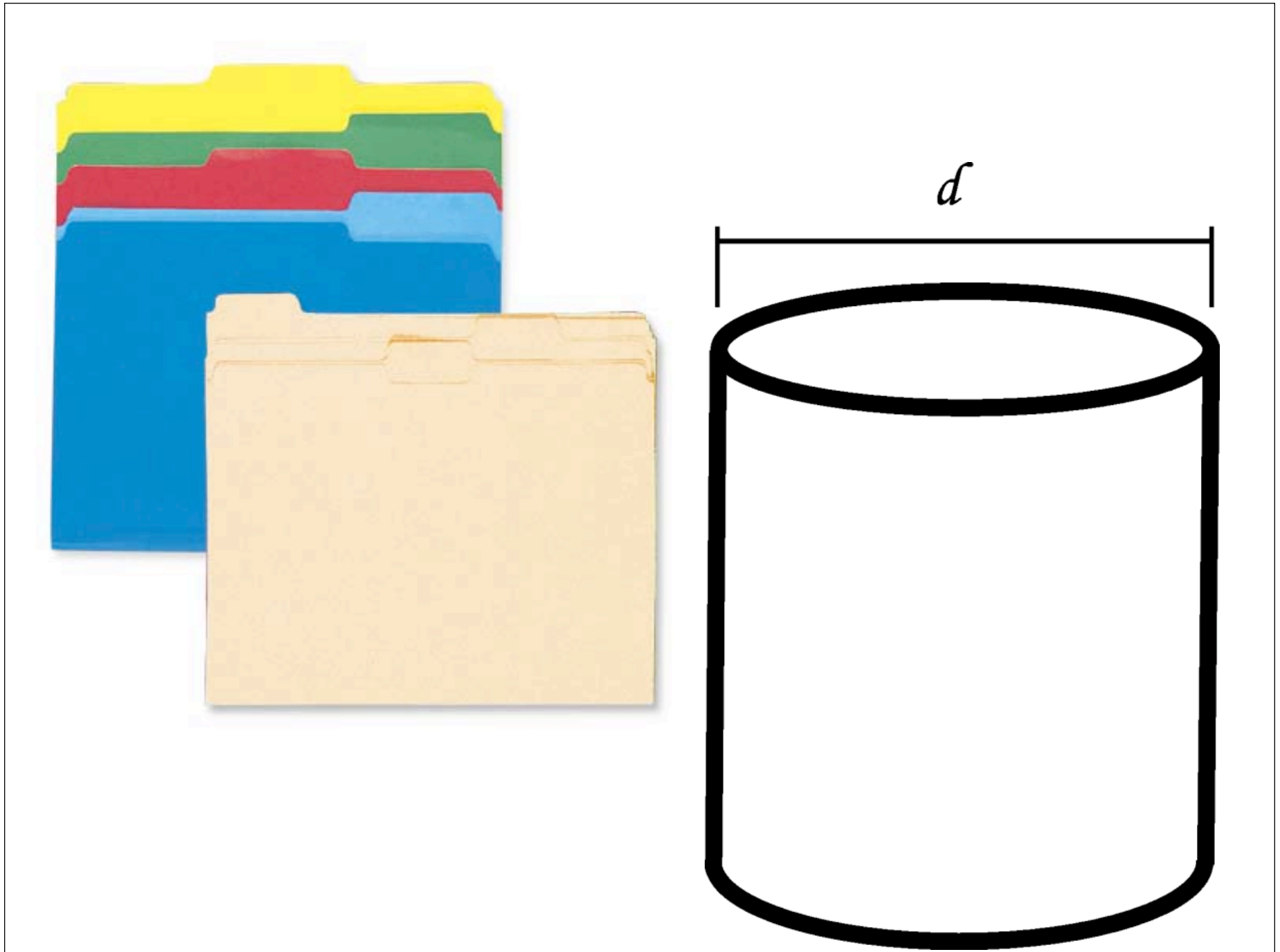






DSL:
a specific tool for a
specific job

SQL




```
select title, author  
from book  
where isbn = 'abc123';
```

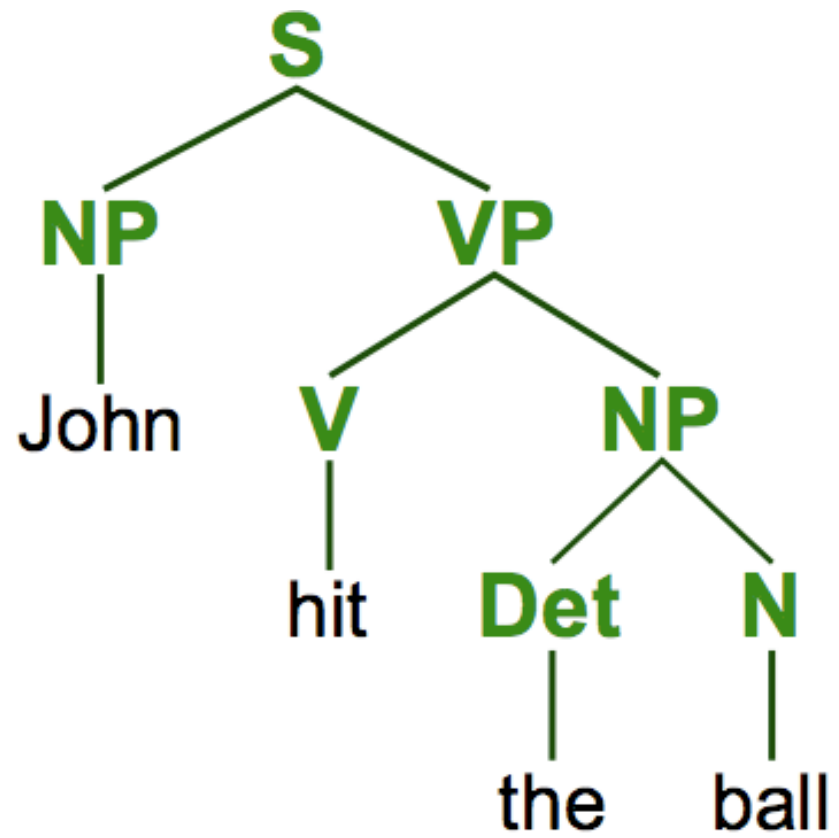


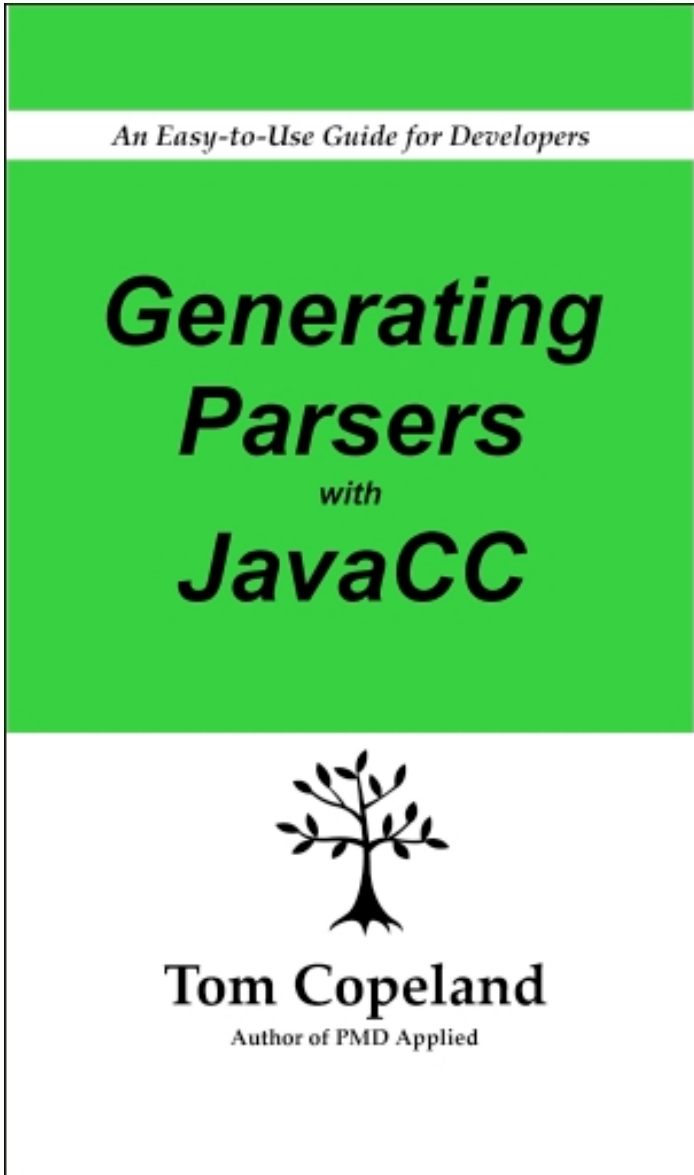
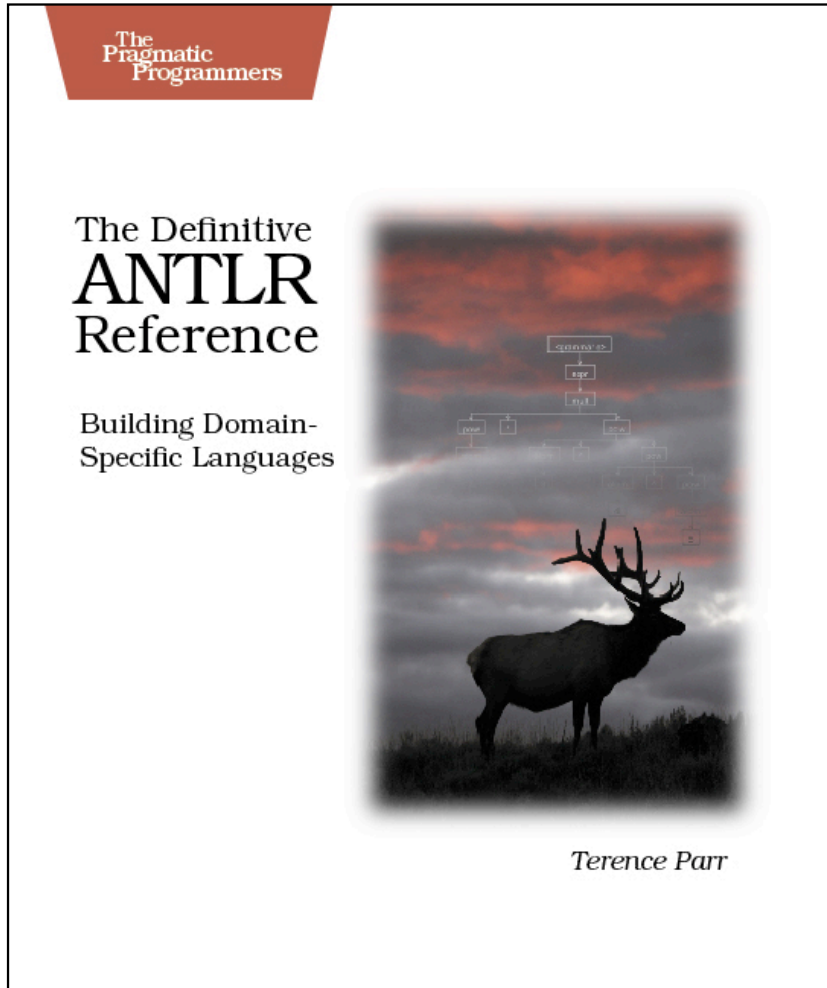
```
<target name="compile"
    description="Compiles the Java code">
    <mkdir dir="${build.dir}" />
    <mkdir dir="${classes.dir}" />

    <javac srcdir="${source.dir}"
        destdir="${classes.dir}"
        debug="on" deprecation="on">
        <classpath refid="compile.classpath"/>
    </javac>

    <copy todir="${classes.dir}">
        <fileset dir="${source.dir}">
            <include name="**/*.properties" />
            <include name="**/*.xml" />
        </fileset>
    </copy>
</target>
```

Internal
or
External?





Solutions to Real-World Problems

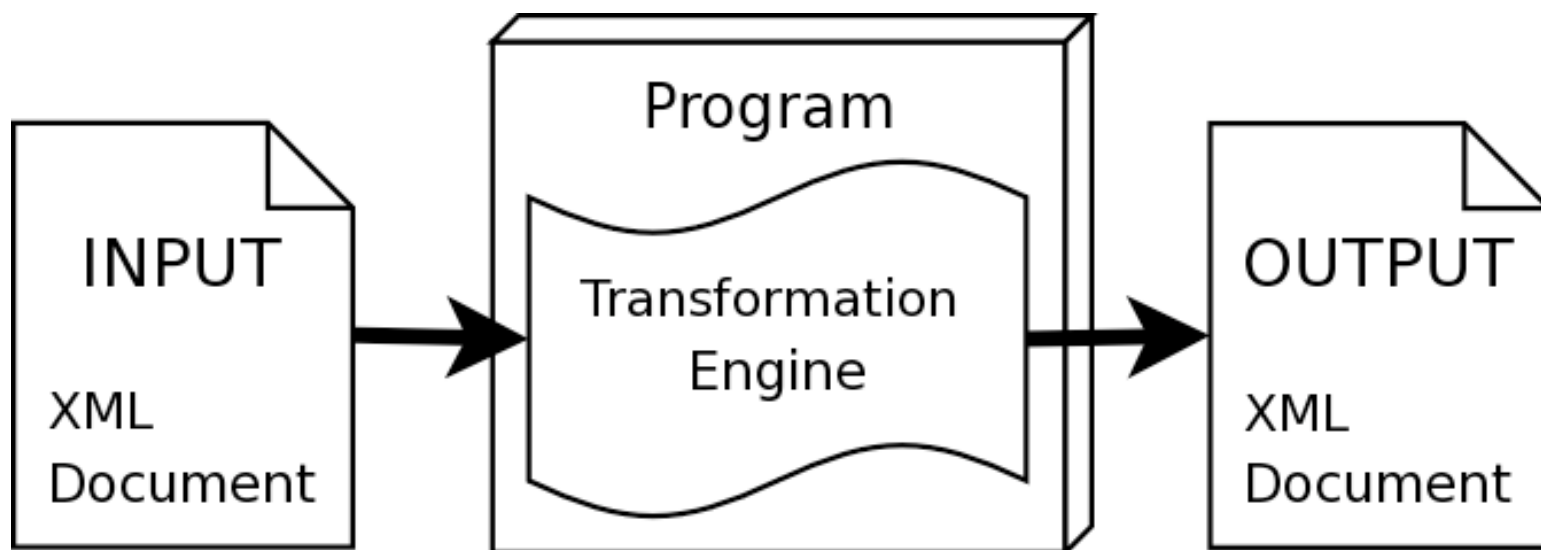
3rd Edition

Java & XML



O'REILLY®

Brett D. McLaughlin & Justin Edelson



Simplicity





- * Cornstarch
- * Corn flour
- * Corn syrup solids
- * Mono and diglycerides
- * Soy lecithin
- * Polysorbate 60
- * Dextrin
- * Calcium caseinate
- * Sodium stearol lactylate
- * Wheat gluten
- * Calcium sulfate
- * Natural and artificial flavors
- * Caramel color
- * Sorbic acid (to retain freshness)
- * Artificial color (yellow 5, red 40)

My Journey to Discover How the
Ingredients Found in Processed Foods
Are Grown, Mined (Yes, Mined), and
Manipulated into What America Eats

Twinkie, Deconstructed



**Steve
Ettlinger**

```
select * from books;
```

What is
Groovy?



is a DSL for Java



Groovy

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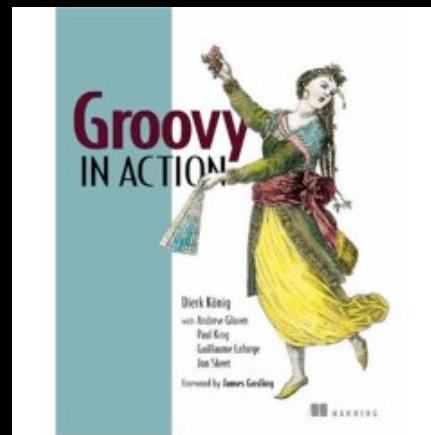
An agile dynamic language for the Java Platform

Groovy...

- is an agile and **dynamic language** for the **Java Virtual Machine**
- builds upon the strengths of Java but has **additional power features** inspired by languages like Python, Ruby and Smalltalk
- makes **modern programming features** available to Java developers with **almost-zero learning curve**
- supports **Domain-Specific Languages** and other compact syntax so your code becomes **easy to read and maintain**
- makes writing shell and build scripts easy with its **powerful processing primitives**, OO abilities and an Ant DSL
- increases developer productivity by **reducing scaffolding code** when developing web, GUI, database or console applications
- **simplifies testing** by supporting unit testing and mocking out-of-the-box
- seamlessly **integrates with all existing Java objects and libraries**
- compiles straight to Java bytecode so you can use it anywhere you can use Java

foreword

It is traditional for scripting languages to have an uneasy relationship with the underlying linguistic system in which the frameworks are implemented. In Groovy's case, they have been able to leverage the underlying Java model to get integration that is smooth and efficient. And because of the linguistic similarities between Java and Groovy, it is fairly painless for developers to shift between programming in one environment and the other.



JAMES GOSLING
Creator of Java
Sun Microsystems, Inc.

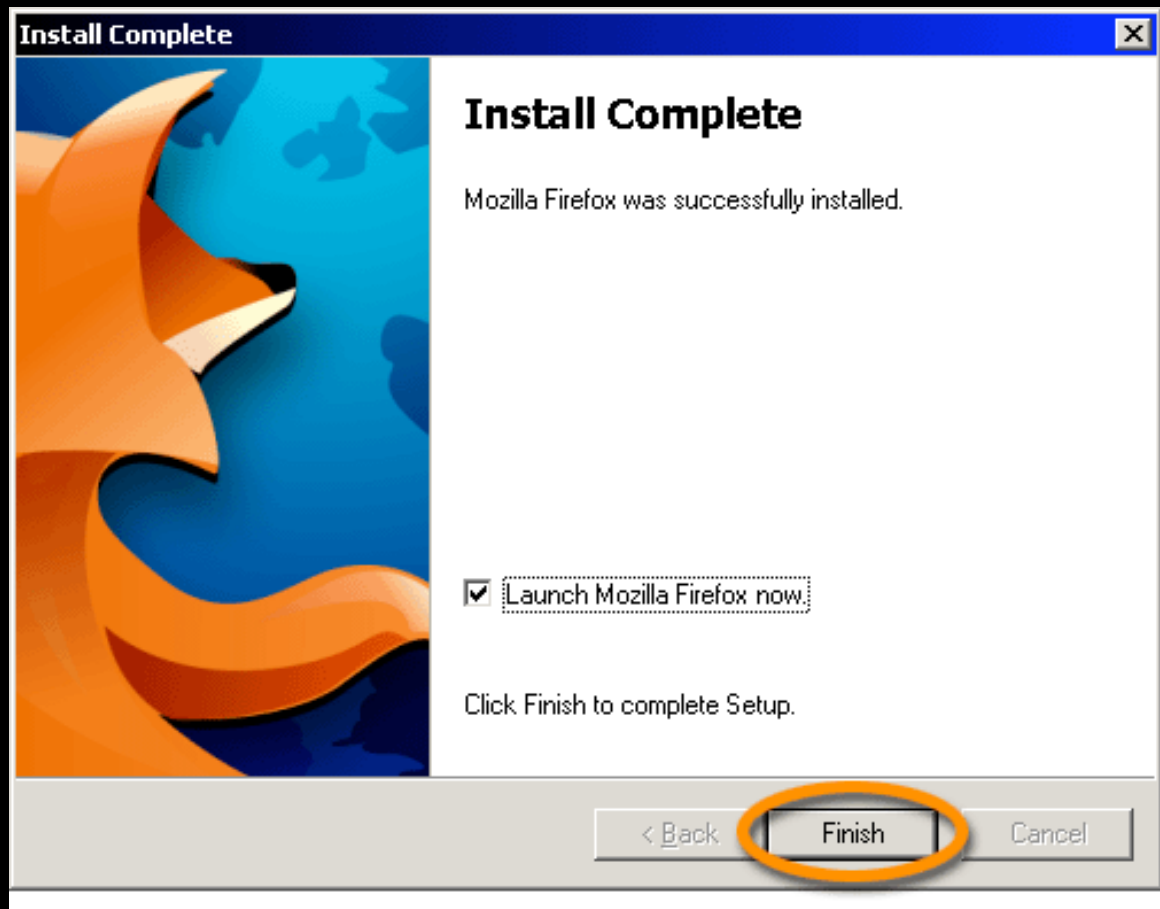
Installing Groovy

- Three steps:
 1. Download and unzip Groovy from <http://groovy.codehaus.org>
 2. Create a GROOVY_HOME environment variable
 3. Add \$GROOVY_HOME/bin to the PATH
- Adding Groovy to your Java project is as simple as adding a single JAR to your CLASSPATH
 - \$GROOVY_HOME/embeddable/groovy-all-1.5.7.jar

```
public class HelloJava{  
    public static void main(String[] args){  
        System.out.println("Hello Java");  
    }  
}
```

```
println "Hello Groovy"
```

A DSL for Installation



```
#!/usr/bin/env groovy

if(args){
  def project = args[0]
  println "Installing ${project}..."
  "cp jboss.tar.gz /install/jboss".execute()
  println "Finished installing ${project}..."
} else{
  println """USAGE: install jboss
    [from src/dir] [to dest/dir]"""
}
}
```

A DSL for Time



```
Integer.metaClass.getHour = {->
    delegate * 60
}

Integer.metaClass.getMinutes = {->
    delegate
}

println 1.hour + 30.minutes
```

A DSL is a specific tool

Internal or External

To simplify the solution



is an
outstanding tool for
building DSLs

DSLs in Groovy

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