



Conjuring Demons

The Power of the True Name

Benjamin Wolf
@ichaos1985

INNOQ

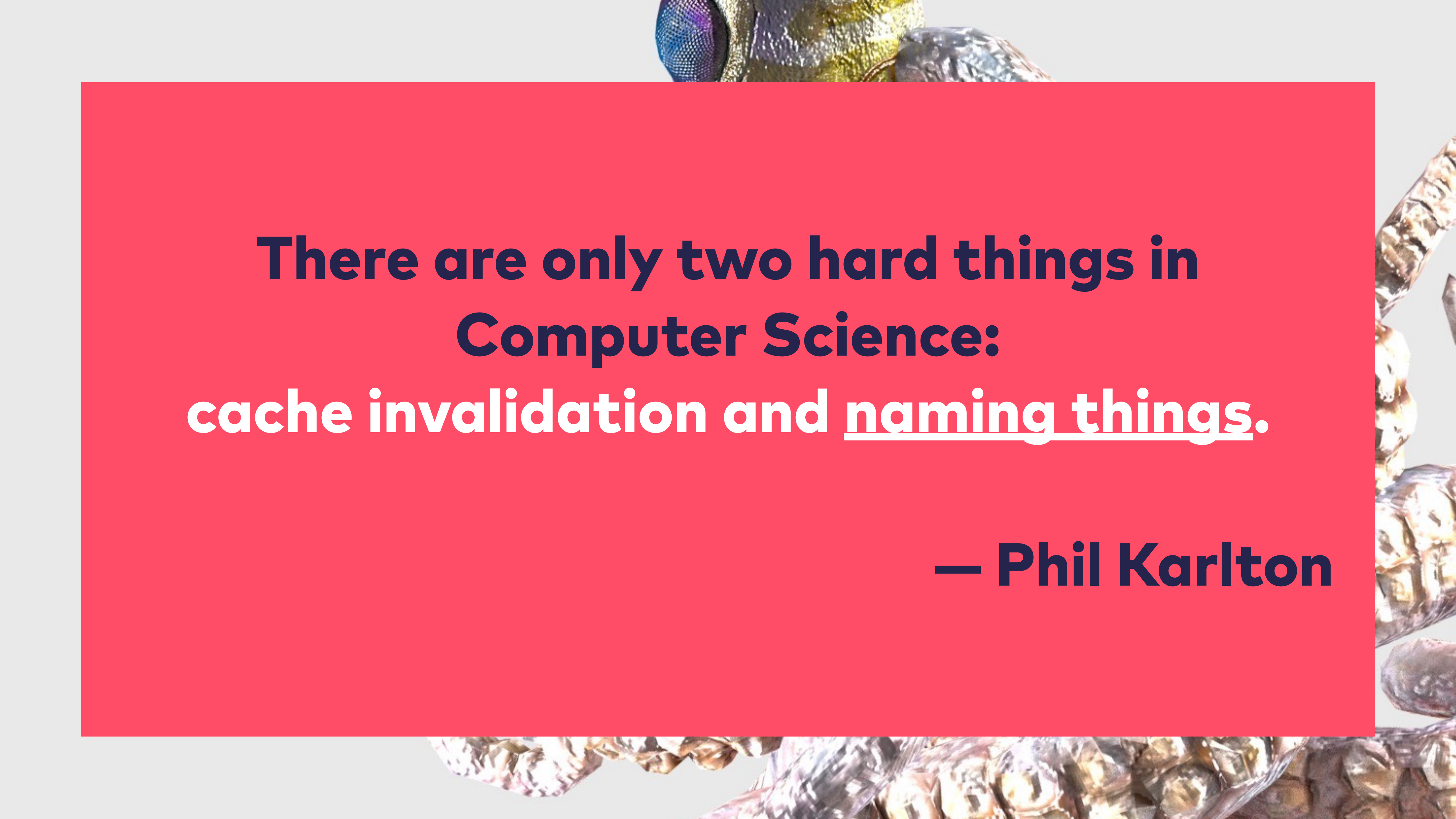
**„Reading good code
is like reading
a good book.“**

Benjamin Wolf

**Senior Consultant
at INNOQ**

Develops applications in Java / .NET
Loves software quality
Coffee snob





**There are only two hard things in
Computer Science:
cache invalidation and naming things.**

— Phil Karlton

Motivation

[← Back](#)

Version History

- 9.56.3** 17h ago
Bug fixes
- 9.56.2** 1d ago
Bug fixes
- 9.56.0** 2d ago
Bug fixes
- 9.55.0** 1w ago
Bug fixes
- 9.54.0** 2w ago
Bug fixes
- 9.53.3** 3w ago
Bug fixes
- 9.53.2** 3w ago
Bug fixes
- 9.53.0** 3w ago

[← Back](#)

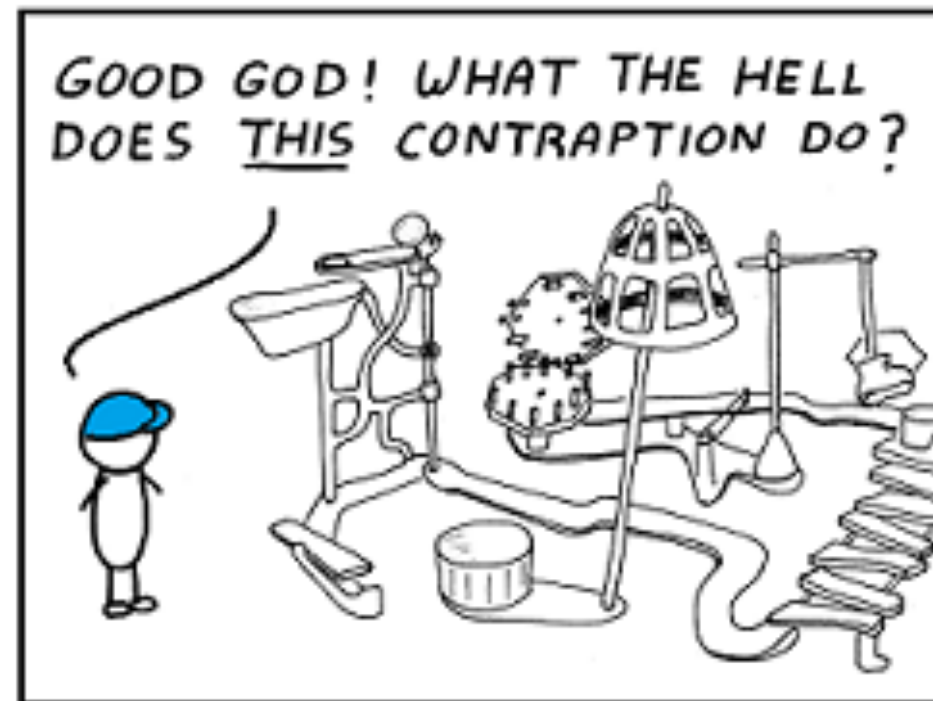
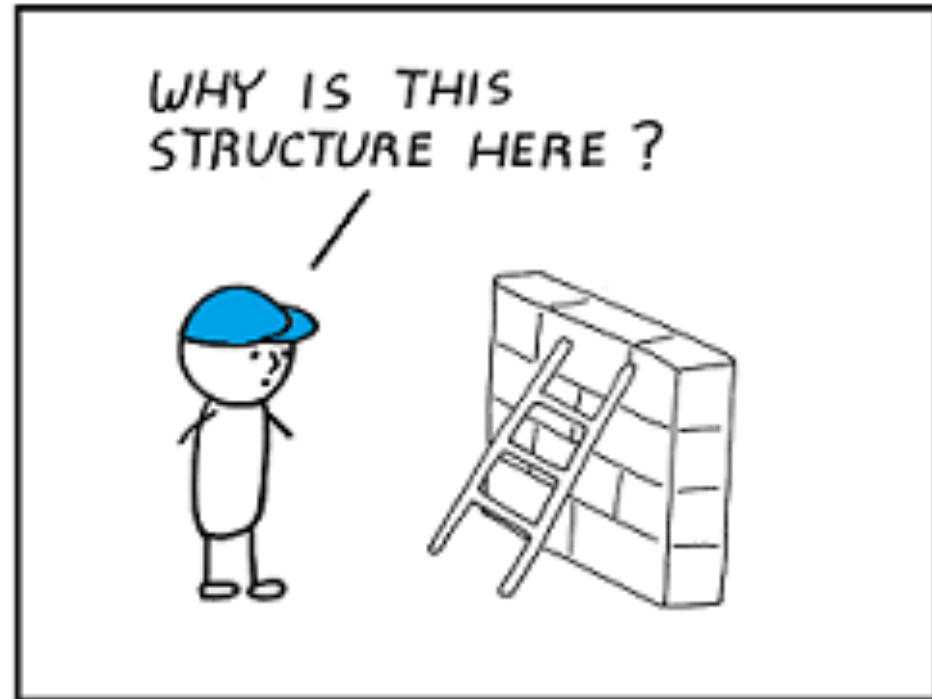
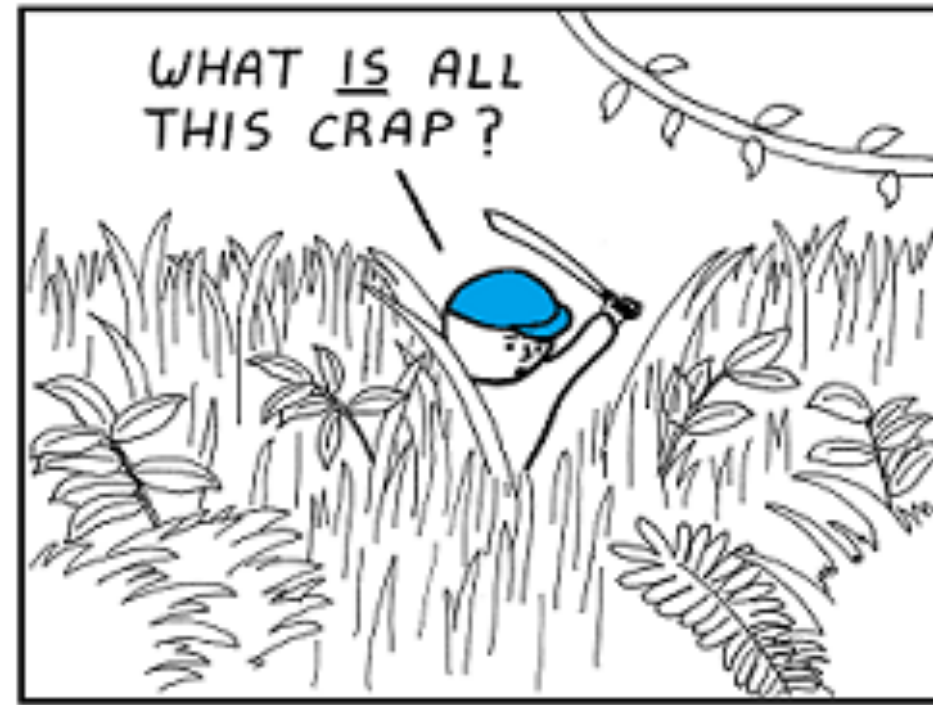
- 9.53.0** 3w ago
Bug fixes
- 9.52.2** 4w ago
Bug fixes
- 9.52.0** 4w ago
Bug fixes
- 9.51.0** 1mo ago
Bug fixes
- 9.49.2** 2mo ago
Bug fixes
- 9.49.0** 2mo ago
Bug fixes
- 9.48.0** 2mo ago
Bug fixes
- 9.47.0** 2mo ago
Bug fixes

[← Back](#)

- 9.46.0** 3mo ago
Bug fixes
- 9.45.0** 3mo ago
Bug fixes
- 9.44.0** 3mo ago
Bug fixes
- 9.42.1** 3mo ago
Bug fixes
- 9.42.0** 3mo ago
Bug fixes
- 9.41.0** 4mo ago
Bug fixes
- 9.40.0** 4mo ago
Bug fixes
- 9.39.0** 4mo ago
Bug fixes

Thank you for using **<AppName>**! We're always working hard to make the app faster and better than ever. Update to the most recent version to get the best experience of **<AppName>**.

Love the app? Rate us! Your feedback helps us to continuously improve **<AppName>**.



I hate reading other people's code.



Digression – Code Comments

```
Exception up = new Exception("Something is wrong.");  
throw up; // ha ha
```

// When I wrote this, only God and I understood
// what I was doing

// Now, God only knows

```
// somedev1 - 6/7/2002 Adding temporary tracking of Login  
// somedev2 - 5/22/2007 Temporary my ass
```

```
// Magic. Do not touch.
```

```
// private instance variable for storing age  
public static int age;
```

```
try {  
    ...  
} finally { // should never happen  
    ...  
}
```

```
// it was hard to write  
// so it should be hard to read
```

```
// John! If you'll svn remove this once more,  
// I'll shut you, for God's sake!  
// That piece of code is not "something strange"!  
// That is THE AUTH VALIDATION.
```

```
options.BatchSize = 300; // Madness? THIS IS SPARTA!
```

```
long long ago; /* in a galaxy far far away */
```

```
// Dear maintainer:  
//  
// Once you are done trying to 'optimise' this routine,  
// and have realised what a terrible mistake that was,  
// please increment the following counter as a warning  
// to the next guy:  
//  
// total_hours_wasted_here = 42  
//
```

```
/*  
 * You may think you know what the following code does.  
 * But you don't. Trust me.  
 * Fiddle with it, and you'll spend many a sleepless  
 * night cursing the moment you thought you'd be clever  
 * enough to "optimize" the code below.  
 * Now close this file and go play with something else.  
 */
```

★
WHAT
GOOD SHALL
I DO THIS
DAY?

Commit Messages

	COMMENT	DATE
○	CREATED MAIN LOOP & TIMING CONTROL	14 HOURS AGO
○	ENABLED CONFIG FILE PARSING	9 HOURS AGO
○	MISC BUGFIXES	5 HOURS AGO
○	CODE ADDITIONS/EDITS	4 HOURS AGO
○	MORE CODE	4 HOURS AGO
○	HERE HAVE CODE	4 HOURS AGO
○	AAAAAAAAAA	3 HOURS AGO
○	ADKFJSLKDFJSDKLKFJ	3 HOURS AGO
○	MY HANDS ARE TYPING WORDS	2 HOURS AGO
○	HAAAAAAAAAANDS	2 HOURS AGO

AS A PROJECT DRAGS ON, MY GIT COMMIT MESSAGES GET LESS AND LESS INFORMATIVE.

Common Commit Messages

- Some bugs fixed
- Fixed bugs
- Some little changes
- Changed a little
- Small fixes
- Fixes XYZ
- F*CK! Had to revert!



Denis Kyorov

@makkalot

Follow

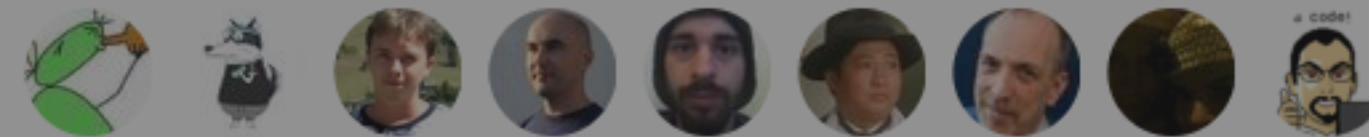


commit message : "some fixes"

Showing **246 changed files** ▾ with **74615 additions** and **1919 deletions**

4:59 PM - 9 Oct 2018

16 Retweets **22** Likes







Style



Content



Metadata

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

7 Rules for Commit Messages

1.

**Separate subject from body
with a blank line**

2.

**Limit the subject line
to 50 characters**

3.
Capitalise
the subject line

4.

**Do not end the subject line
with a period**

5.

**Use the imperative mood
in the subject line**

6. Wrap the body at 72 characters

7.

**Use the body to explain
what and why *vs.* how**

Summarise changes in around 50 characters or less

More detailed explanatory text, if necessary. Wrap it to about 72 characters or so. In some contexts, the first line is treated as the subject of the commit and the rest of the text as the body. The blank line separating the summary from the body is critical (unless you omit the body entirely); various tools like 'log', 'shortlog' and 'rebase' can get confused if you run the two together.

Explain the problem that this commit is solving. Focus on why you are making this change as opposed to how (the code explains that). Are there side effects or other unintuitive consequences of this change? Here's the place to explain them.

Further paragraphs come after blank lines.

- Bullet points are okay, too
- Typically a hyphen or asterisk is used for the bullet, preceded by a single space, with blank lines in between, but conventions vary here

If you use an issue tracker, put references to them at the bottom, like this:

Resolves: #123

See also: #456, #789

```
+ .g/COMMIT_EDITMSG
```

```
# Applying this commit will...
```

```
Add the main presentation file
```

```
# Why was this change made?
```

```
We need a presentation for the .NET user group meetup in our office. In addition, it can be used for any conference in the future.
```

```
# Any references to issues, tickets, articles?
```

```
See #4
```

```
█
```

```
# Please enter the commit message for your changes. Lines starting  
# with '#' will be ignored, and an empty message aborts the commit.
```

```
#
```

```
# On branch conjuring_demons
```

```
# Your branch is ahead of 'origin/conjuring_demons' by 3 commits.
```

```
# (use "git push" to publish your local commits)
```

```
#
```

```
# Changes to be committed:
```

```
#   new file:   software_demons.key
```

```
#
```

```
<WD: /Users/ben/Documents/developer/conferences/gitlab_repo  Line: 10  Column: 0
```

**Explain the
Motive in Detail**

**Summarise the
Essential**

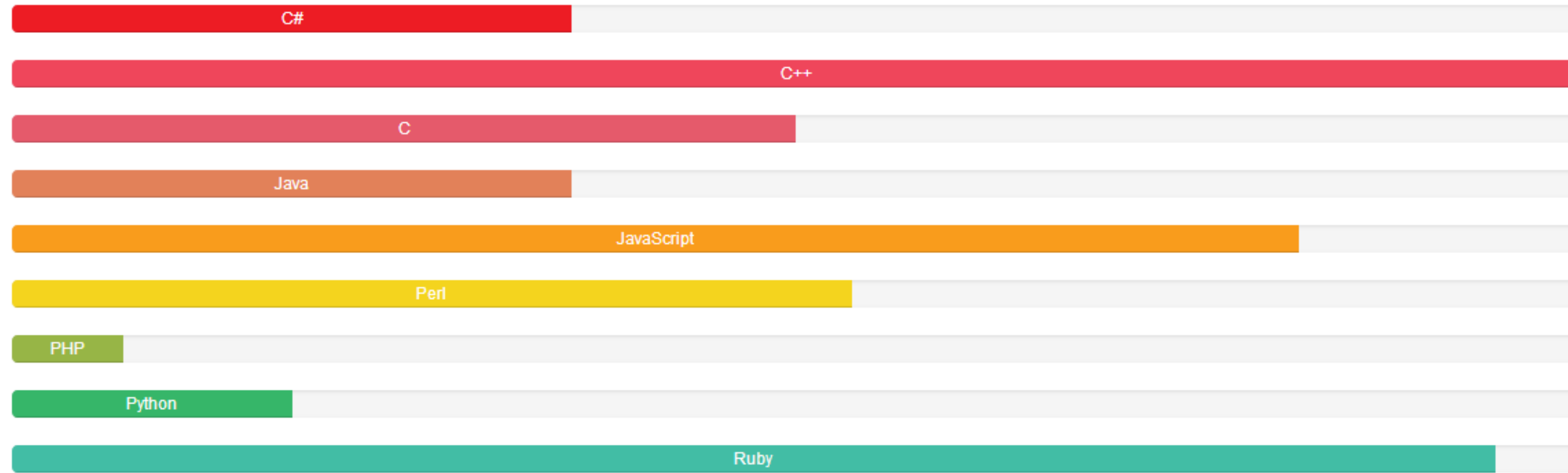
Do NOT Babble

**Do NOT State
the Obvious**

`@gitlost`

`@git_commit_m`

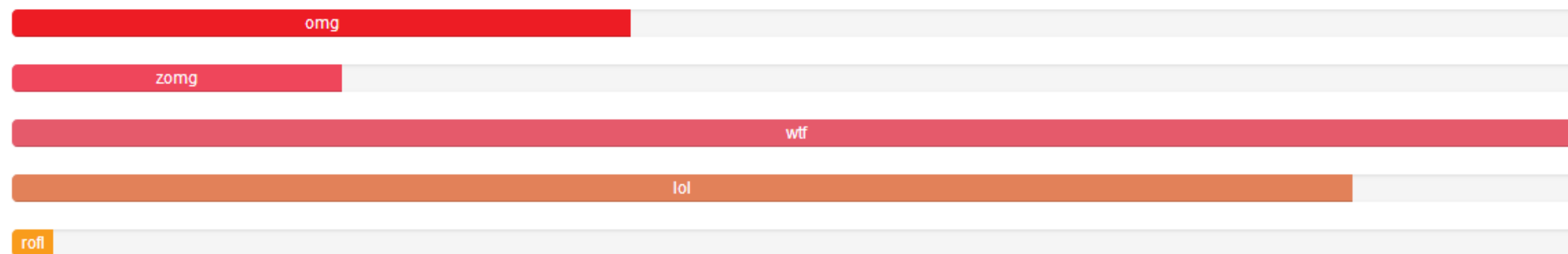
Profanity by Programming Language



Total Swear Words



Total Other Words





**What Has Been Seen
—Cannot Be Unseen**



**What Has Been Seen
—Cannot Be Unseen**



**What Has Been Seen
—Cannot Be Unseen**

```
private int a;  
private int b;  
private int c;
```

```
SetUserInterfaceControlState( false );
```

```
SetManualUpdateOnOff("1");
```

```
// Yap, that is a string!
```

(◡ ◡) ◡ ◡

```
ActReqInter4ProcUp(string aHaMesCo)  
{  
    ...
```

```
ActivateRequiredInterfaceForProcessUpdate  
    (string aHashedMessageContent)  
{  
    ...
```

```
ReadThisFromFileIfRequiredOrDoNotReadAndChangeOrder  
    ( false );
```

```
void SetSimpleIntValue(int aValue)
{
    // check borders

    // calculate two other values with rocket science math

    // Trigger UI Update

    // request information from server

    _myMember = aValue;
}
```



**Amazing examples
for awesome names**

Think.

Think twice!

Write your code.

Think again!

Refactor your code.

Think

different!

Refactor your code again.

Use Concrete Names

```
bool ServerCanStart( );
```

```
bool CanListenOnPort( );
```

```
ourRemoteServerApp.exe --run_locally
```

```
ourRemoteServerApp.exe --extra_logging
```

Attach Details

```
var elapsed = Date.getTime( ) - start;
```

```
var elapsedMilliseconds = Date.getTime() - start;
```

```
void printUserComment(string comment);
```

```
void printUserComment(string unescapedComment);
```

Prevent Ambiguity

```
Results = Database.AllObjects.Filter("year <= 2011");
```

```
Results = Database.AllObjects.Select("year <= 2011");  
Results = Database.AllObjects.Exclude("year <= 2011");
```

Naming Booleans

```
bool read_password = true;
```

```
bool need_password = true;  
bool user_is_authenticated = false;
```

```
bool disable_ssl = true;
```

```
bool use_ssl = false;
```

**Match expectations of users
(of your code)**

```
var myVal = myObject.GetValue( );
```

```
myObject.SetValue(myVal);
```

Setters are *EVIL*

```
class CookieJar
{
    void SetCookies(int aCookieCount) { ... }
    ...
}
```

```
myJar.SetCookies(myJar.GetCookies() - 3);
```

It's all about the context...

```
class CookieJar
{
    TakeCookies(int aCookieCount) { ... }
    AddNewCookies(int aNewCookies) { ... }
    ...
}
```

```
myJar.TakeCookies(3);
```

Setters are *EVIL*

Benjamin Wolf
Gernot Starke

Promotion

(on my own account)

- Introduction to arc42
- Dispels documentation myths
- Explains arc42 by an example

leanpub.com/arc42-primer

**Software-
architekturen
pragmatisch
dokumentieren**

arc⁴²

Eine Einführung

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Resources (images)

- Cover page, last page: Photo by kellepics on Pixabay, <https://pixabay.com/en/fantasy-forest-creepy-woman-bird-2846786/>
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- Page 21, "Best Made Cup", Photo by Nathan Lemon on Unsplash, https://unsplash.com/photos/FBiKcUw_sQw
- Page 22, "Git Commit", <https://xkcd.com/1296/> / https://imgs.xkcd.com/comics/git_commit_2x.png, CC BY-SA 2.5
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- Page 29, "run track from the air", Photo by Marvin Ronsdorf on Unsplash, https://unsplash.com/photos/sX9_SHlqH4w
- Page 42, "Github profanity", andrewvos.com/2011/02/21/amount-of-profanity-in-git-commit-messages-per-programming-language

Resources (images)

- Page 43, "Monkey", Photo by Jared Rice on Unsplash, <https://unsplash.com/photos/O6DUoII6NWA>
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Resources (examples)

- Page 9, "Throw Up", Comment by benmatth on stackoverflow.com, <https://stackoverflow.com/a/549611>, CC BY-SA 3.0
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- Page 20, "You do not", Comment by PoppaVein on stackoverflow.com, <https://stackoverflow.com/a/189859>, CC BY-SA 3.0
- Pages 30-38: „How to write a commit message“, Chris Beams on <https://chris.beams.io/posts/git-commit/>, CC BY-SA 4.0
- Pages 61-78: Boswell, Dustin; Foucher, Trevor (2011). The Art of Readable Code. O'Reilly Media.