

Uncommon web technologies*

Or “A look at Seaside, and a discussion about esoteric web frameworks”

* The topics there are no O'Reilly books about

Who am I

- **Lars Rostemeier**
- **System architect at Snowmen Solutions**
- **Previously: KTH, Razorfish, GameDesign Sweden, Netbaby, ACNE, Automata (still so), Ongame**
- **I prefer dynamic languages***
- **Professional programming** in C, C++, Lua, Java, Python, Smalltalk, Ruby, Perl, Scheme and Common Lisp**

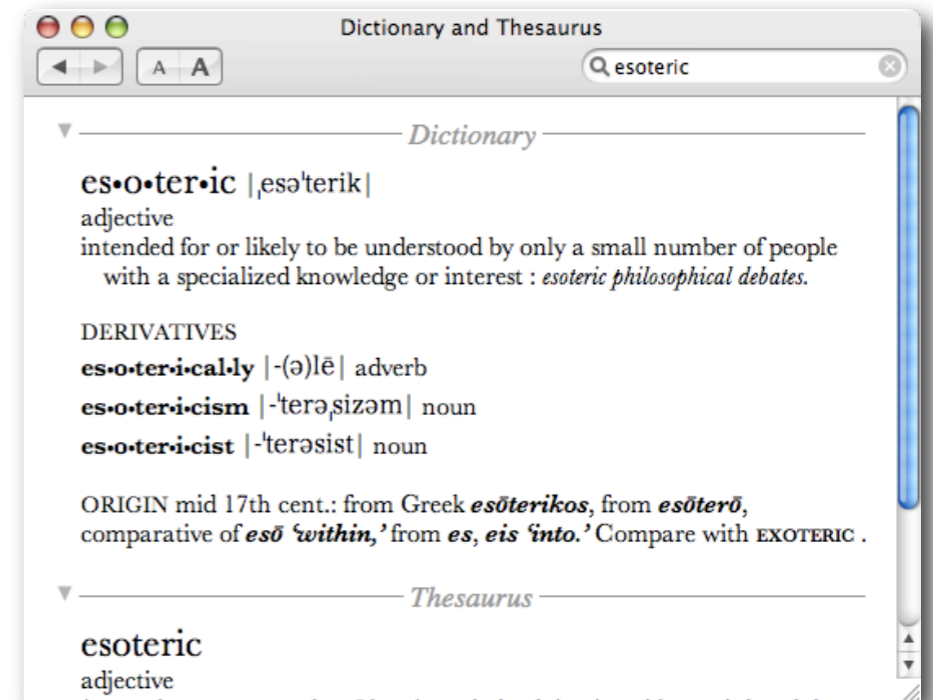
* Languages that defer as many **decisions** as possible until runtime
They also tend to be **expressive**: “Programs must be written for people to read, and only incidentally for machines to execute”. /Sussman

** In the sense that I have been paid to program in the language

Cutting edge web sw

Why bother with this esoteric stuff

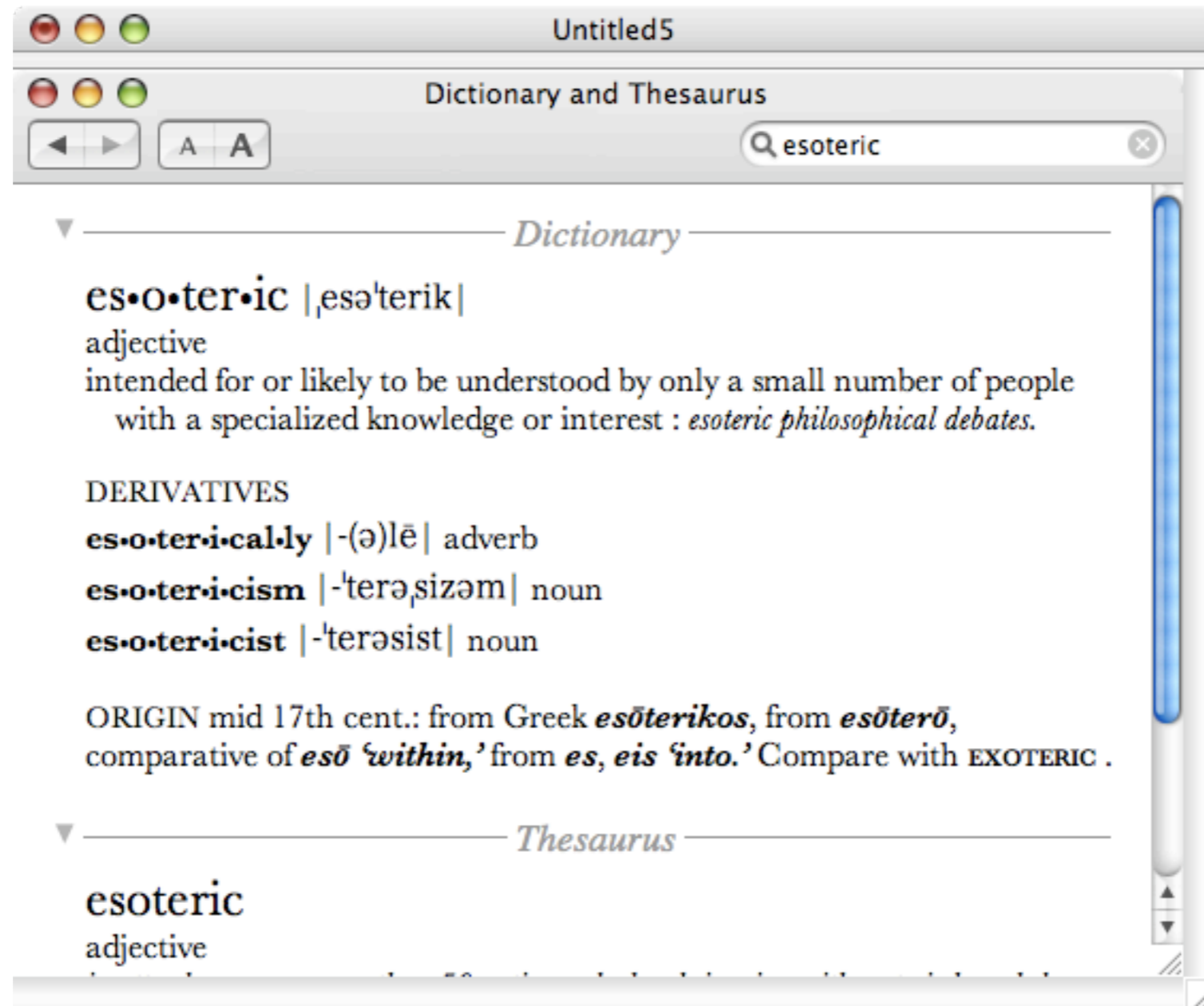
- Makes you a better developer
- The future lies in some of the radical projects
- Paradigm changes tend to scare developers (reluctance to change)
- Good for experimentation, prototyping* (does anyone do prototyping?)
- In a nutshell: It is fun



Consequence of the fact that most apps are deployed as web applications

- You can write web apps in any language!
- Not so for desktop applications

Developer courage



Seaside

- I want to talk about Seaside since it seem to be unknown outside the Lisp/Smalltalk world
- Why is this?
- Smalltalk, an extremely dynamic* language (even more so than Ruby)
- Everything is an object, even the runtime stack, “reification”
- The syntax (or lack there of) is scary to some
- Image based development is not fashionable

Features

Programmatic HTML generation.

Callback-based request handling.

Embedded components.

Modal session management.

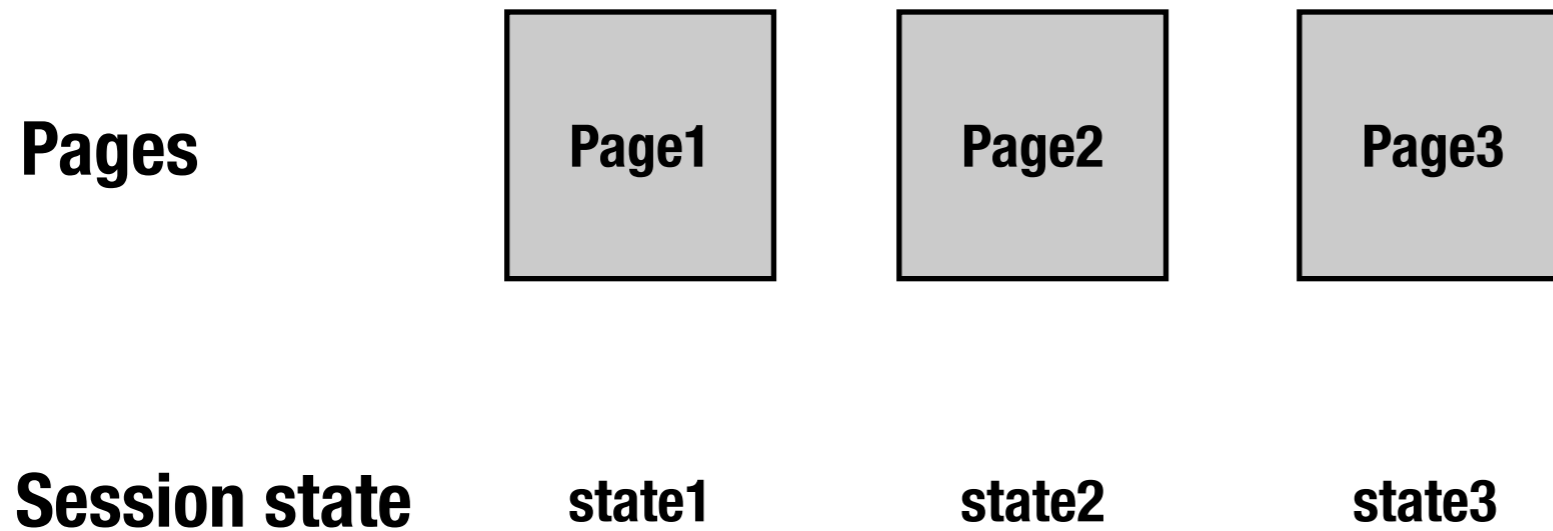
Interactive debugging support.

Features

- Halos in squeak
- Halos in seaside
- Inspector
- Backtracking
- Thinking about things at the component level

Back tracking

- What happens when we use the back button?



- What do we want?

Continuations

- Travel in time

```
color = color_picker()
```

```
set_background(color)
```

```
...
```

Code generation

- Do not render CSS content

Hands on demo

The screenshot shows the website *script.aculo.us* with a navigation menu containing 'welcome', 'ajax', 'form', 'controls', 'drag & drop', and 'effects'. The 'ajax' tab is active. The page content includes sections for 'updater', 'periodical', and 'evaluator'. A JavaScript console window is overlaid on the page, displaying the following content:

rendering	renderContentOn: renderTimeOn:
-----------	-----------------------------------

```
SUPeriodicalTest>>renderContentOn: html  
html paragraph  
script: (html periodical  
  frequency: 5 seconds;  
  on: #renderTimeOn: of: self);  
with: [ self renderTimeOn: html ]
```

close

h1 highlight

View Source

New Session Configure Toggle Halos Spot Profile Memory Use Terminate XHTML 38/38 ms

Interesting projects

- Seaside
- Ruby on Rails
- Xen (Elastic Computer Cloud,)
- Erlang
- IO
- Croquet
- JWACS
- Links
- UnCommon Web
- ...

Real life Seaside @ dabbledb.com

DABBLE DB Help

Applications

Welcome to Dabble DB. Your database is currently empty.

Next step...
Create a new application

Use the panel at the right to create your first application.

Once you've created one or more applications, they will be listed here. While using Dabble, you can always get back here by clicking the Applications link at the top right.

Create a new application

1. Name your application
OSCON Planner

Examples: Project Manager, Contact List, Conference Calendar.

2. Choose a first category (you can add more later)

What is a category?
Examples: Project, Contact, Event.

3. Create your application

OSCON PLANNER Home All Views Import Data Sharing Help

Session + ? ?

Portland Perl
Python Calendar
New View...

21 Entries

FILTER BY CATEGORY:
Session

FILTER BY VALUE:
Keywords
python

Add filter

What is a filter?

Tip: Specify a home view

You can specify that any view is the "Home" view of an application by clicking the view name link and checking "Use as Home" box.

Hide help

Python Calendar What is this?

When reconfigured (216 entries affected). UNDO

July 6, 2003 - July 12, 2003 Jump

Time	SUN. JULY 6	MON. JULY 7	TUE. JULY 8	WED. JULY 9	THU. JULY 10
All Day					
9 am		Up & Running With wxPython	Introduction to Python	Network Programming in Python	
10 am				fit: the Framework for Introduction	Subversion from Within: Using Python in
11 am					numarray: A
12 pm					
1 pm					
2 pm		Scientific Computing with Python		Scripting Mac OS X with Python	Python Web Service and Grid Services
3 pm				The PyPy	Kiva - A
4 pm					The Perils of
				SWIG for	The Python

OSCON PLANNER Home Import Data Sharing Help

Session + ? ?

+ New Entry

Unsaved View What is this?

6 Entries

FILTER BY CATEGORY:
Session

FILTER BY VALUE:
Keywords
perl

Room is
Portland

Add filter

What is a filter?

Tip: Save your view

If you want to be able to come back to this view later, click the view name link to save it with a name

Hide help

	Room	Presenter Name	Summary
<input type="checkbox"/> Automated Testing of Large Projects with Perl	Portland	Andy Lester	Type: Session, Description: Perl's testing tools have been traditionally aimed at modules,...
<input type="checkbox"/> extproc_perl: Embedding Perl in Oracle	Portland	Jeff Horwitz	Type: Session, Description: extproc_perl extends an Oracle database by allowing stored pro...
<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Strength Perl - Failing Predictably and Dealing With It	Portland	Dave Rolsky	Type: Session, Description: It's often better to give up in a controlled manner than to fo...
<input type="checkbox"/> One Perl to Bind Them All	Portland	Merijn Broeren	Type: Session, Description: Perl is used extensively at Morgan Stanley to intensively mana...
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing about Perl - Observations and Guidelines	Portland	Randal L. Schwartz	Type: Session, Description: Randal and co-conspirator Phoenix offer an informative (and hu...
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing Perl Extensions in C	Portland	Dan Sugalski	Type: Tutorial, Description: Sugalski's tutorial session brings attendees up to speed with...

Actions... → 6 entries in view showing 20 at a time

More info: <http://seaside.st/>