

SassConf 2013



Managing Complex Projects with Design Components

John Albin Wilkins
@JohnAlbin

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@JohnAlbin



Free Gifts From Me

- ★ **Zen Grids**

<http://zengrids.com>

- ★ **Normalize.css for Sass/Compass**

<http://bit.ly/normalize-with-compass>

- ★ **Succinct theme for Colloquy** (IRC for Mac)

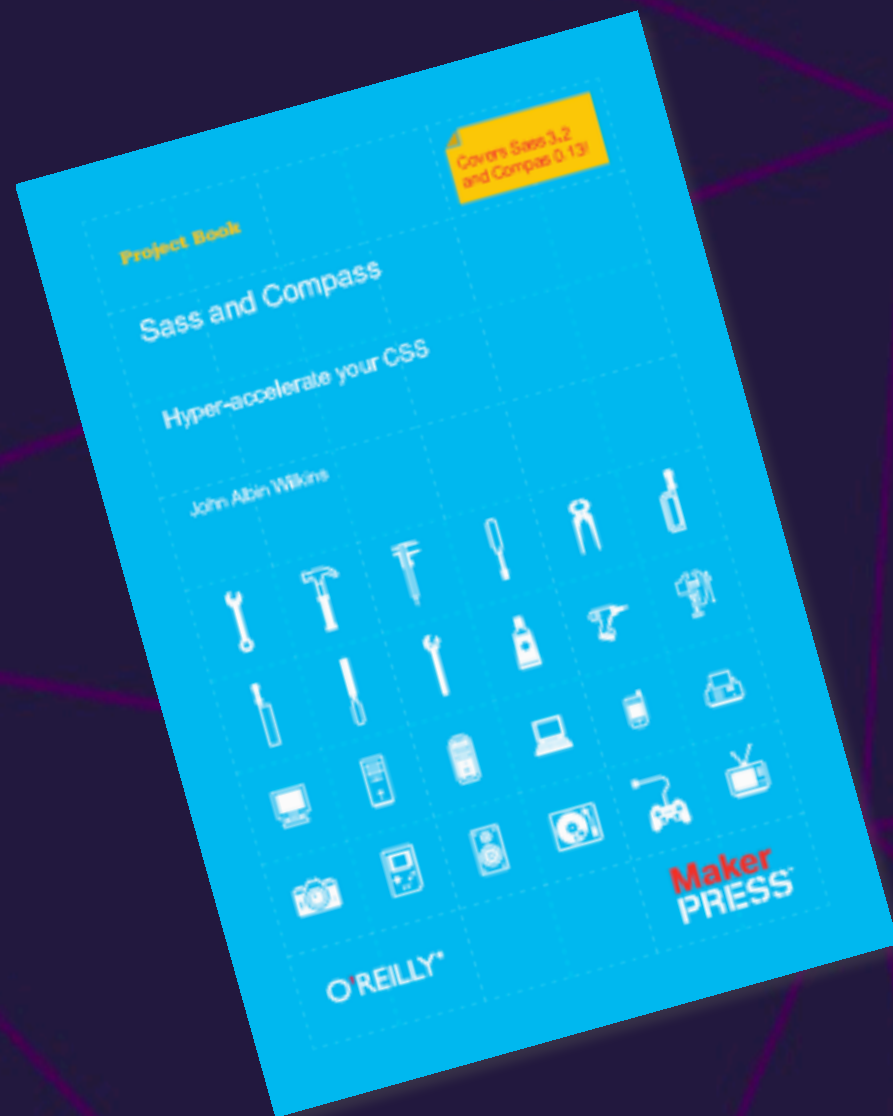
<https://github.com/JohnAlbin/succinct-for-colloquy>

- ★ **git-svn-migrate**

<http://john.albin.net/git/git-svn-migrate>

- ★ **Zen theme for Drupal**

<https://drupal.org/project/zen>



Introduction to Sass and Compass O'Reilly

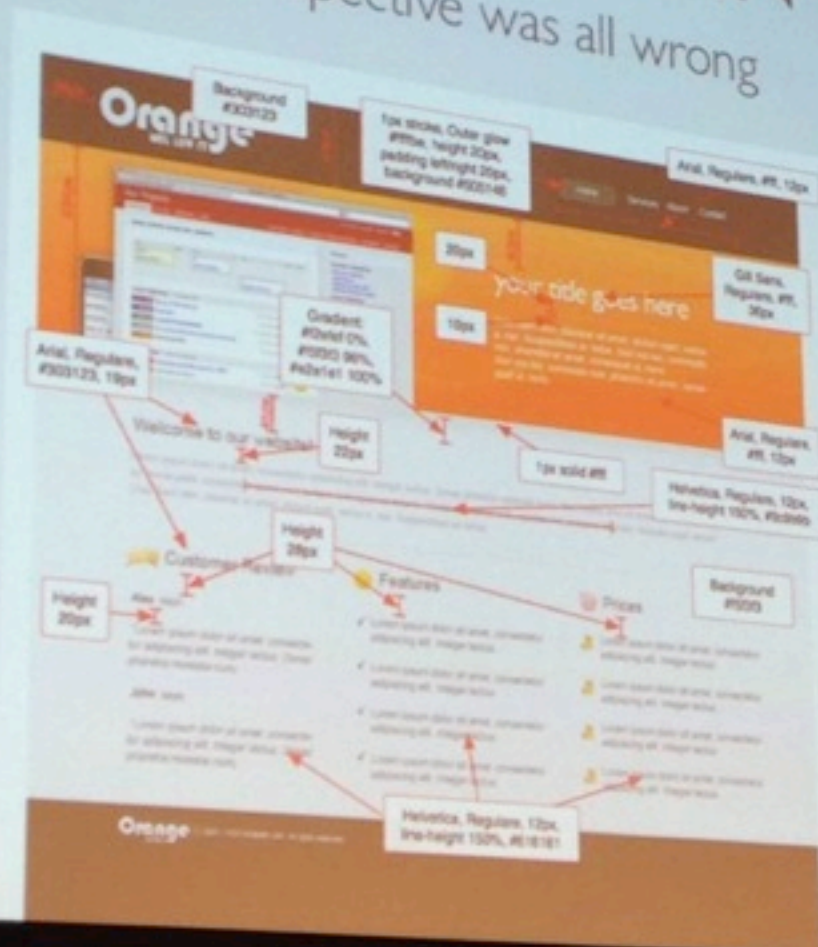
Due in Winter
2013

May contain
Lemurs.

Building Sites Outside-In

THE OUTSIDE-IN

our perspective was all wrong



CSS Specificity Wars



CSS

Specificity Wars

`.menu .item a:link {}`

`.sidebar .menu .item a:link {}`

`.page-37 .sidebar .menu
.item a:link {}`

CSS

Specificity Wars

```
.menu .item a:link {
```

```
.sidebar & {
```

```
.page-37 & {}
```

```
}
```

```
}
```


Seemed like a good idea
at the time.





Nicolas Gallagher

“Are you new to front-end
web development?”

Here’s a secret:
no one else really knows
what they’re doing either.”

— @necolas

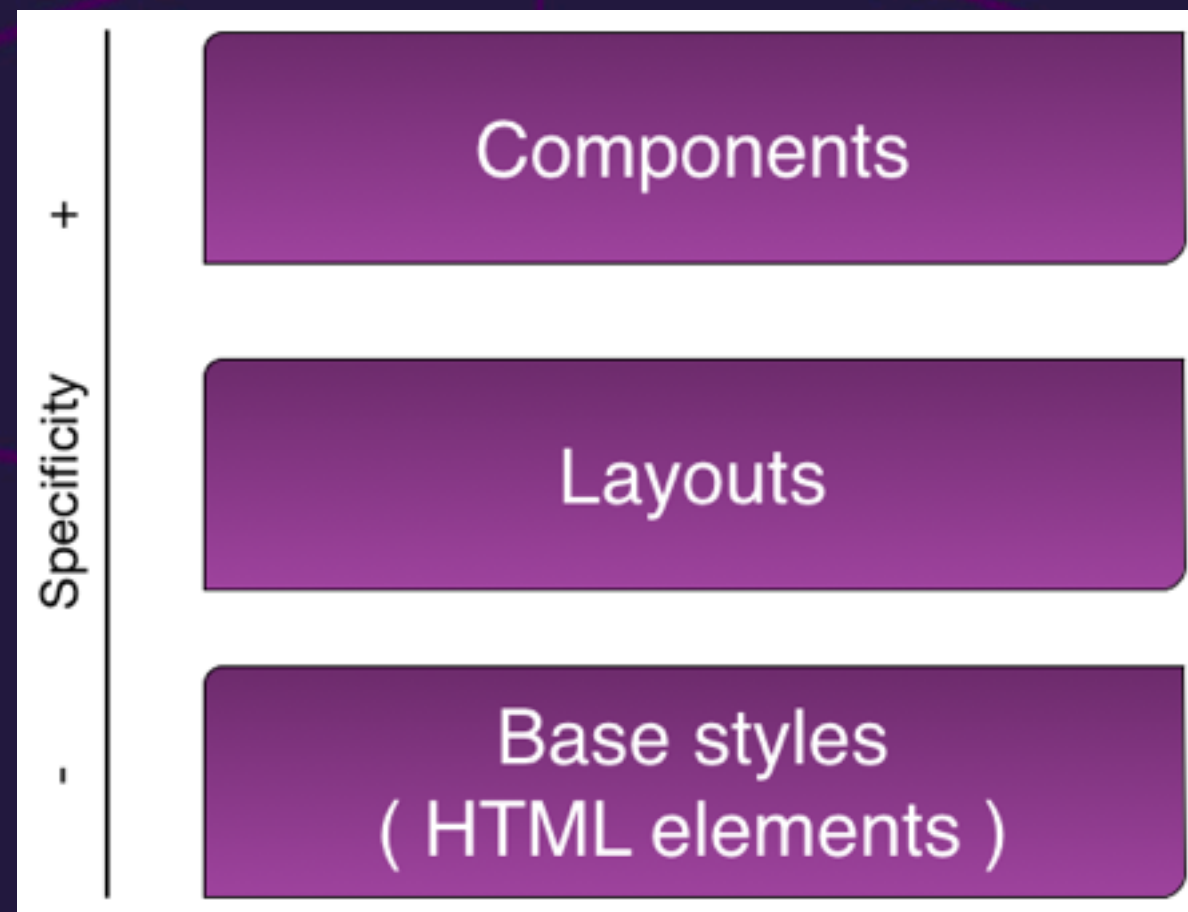
What are Design Components?

- ★ “Component” is the same as...
- ★ “Object” in OOCSS
- ★ “Module” in SMACSS
- ★ “Block” in BEM’s Block-Element-Modifier
- ★ “UI Pattern”

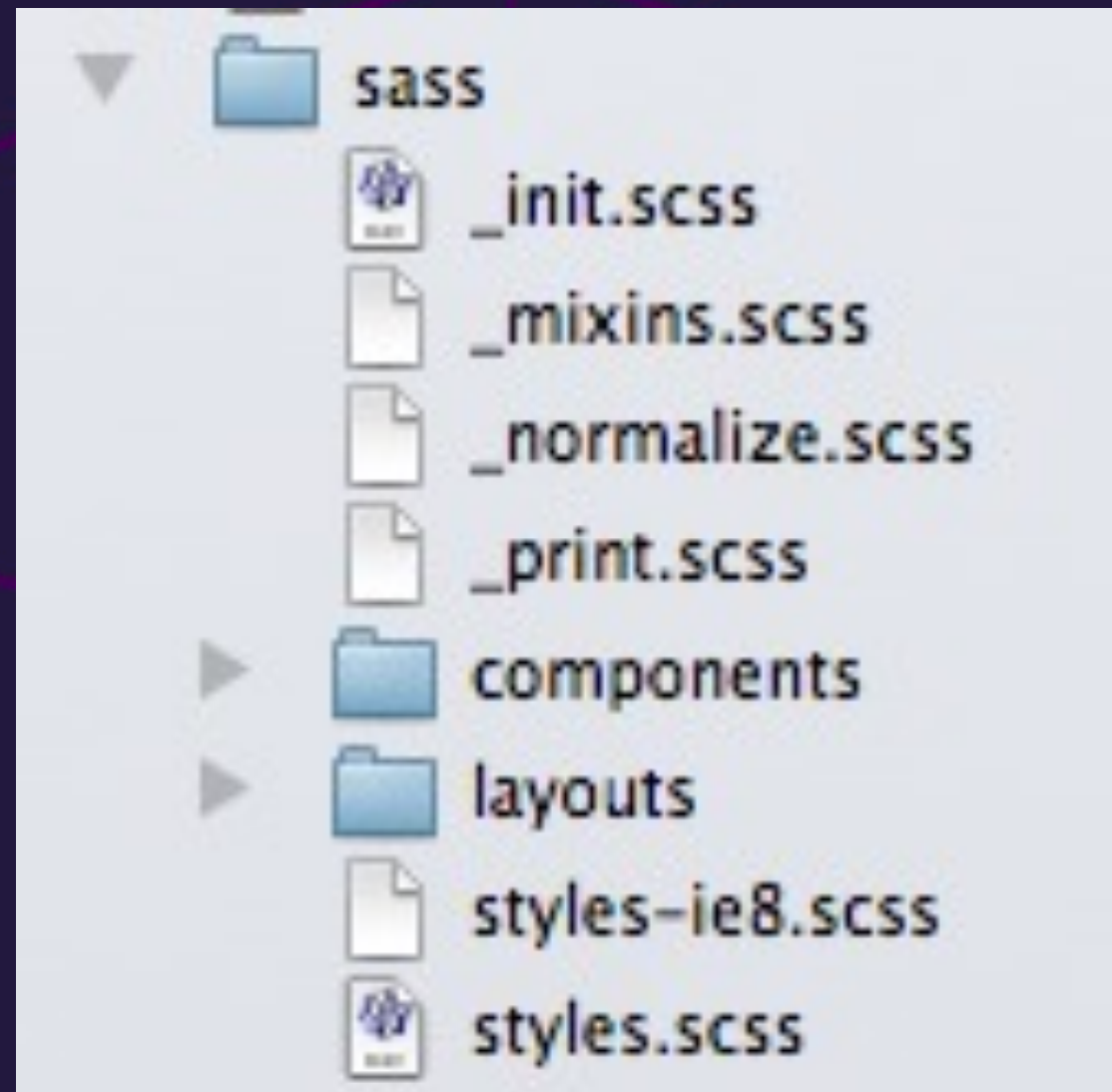
Goals of Design Components

- ★ Reduce specificity
- ★ Reduce applicability /
control the cascade

File organization = first 3 SMACSS Layers



Simple Folder Structure



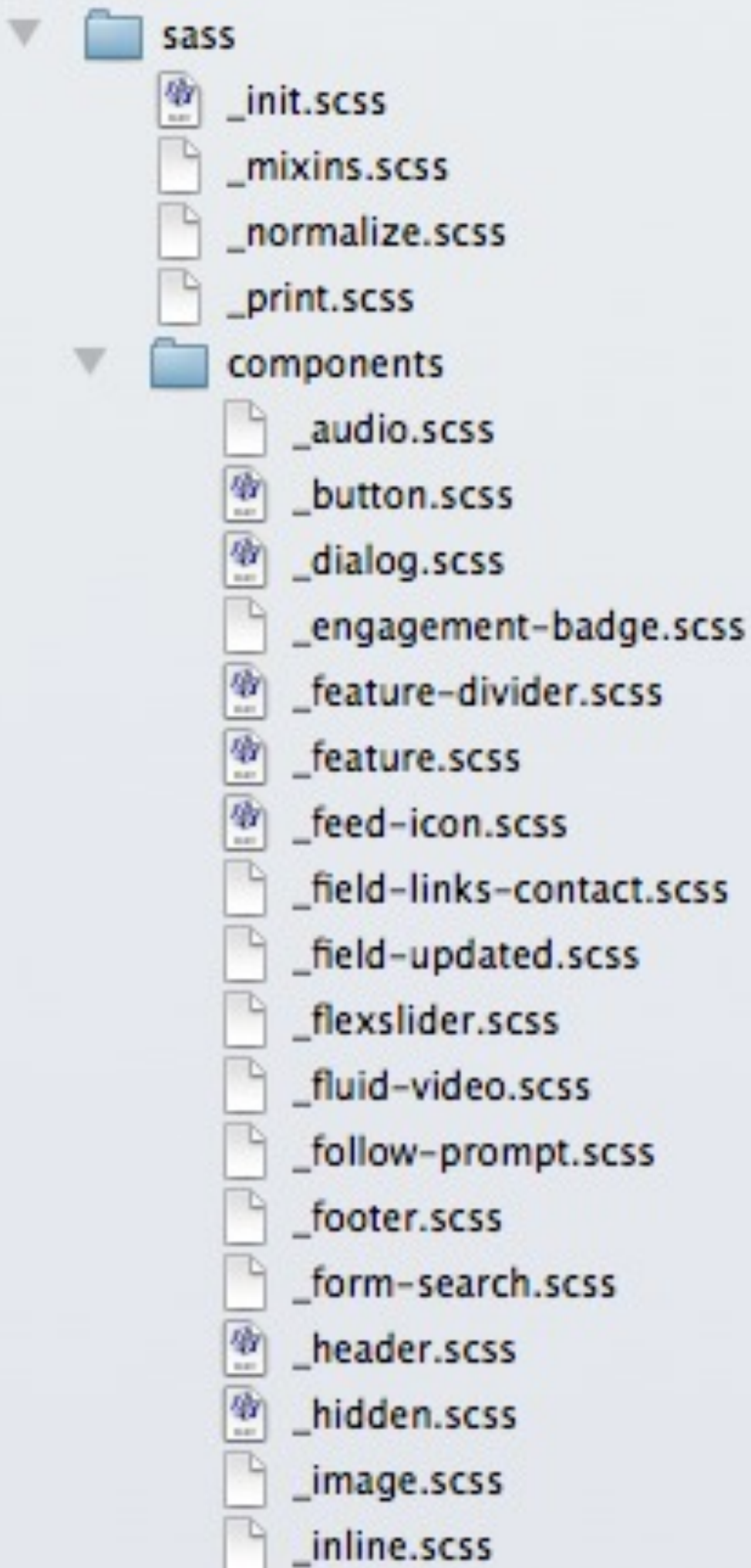
styles.scss

```
/* Import Sass mixins, variables, Compass modules, etc. */
@import "init";

/* HTML element (SMACSS base) rules */
@import "normalize";

/* Layout rules */
@import "layouts/l-zen-grids-base";
@import "layouts/l-centered";
@import "layouts/l-6up";
@import "layouts/l-general";
@import "layouts/l-header";
@import "layouts/l-home";
@import "layouts/l-story";
@import "layouts/l-vertical";

/* Component (SMACSS module) rules */
@import "components/audio";
@import "components/button";
@import "components/feature";
```



Putting all components in one folder means it is ridiculously easy to find components.

- ★ Inspect the DOM.
- ★ Find the class on the design component.
- ★ Look for a file with that name in the components folder.

A simple
component

and a
variant
(all in one file)



```
%button,  
.button {  
  display: block;  
  width: 100%;  
  text-align: center;  
  background-color: $blue;  
  color: $white;  
  line-height: 60px;  
  @include border-radius(30px);  
  font-weight: 700;  
}  
  
%button--tight,  
.button--tight {  
  @extend %button;  
  display: inline;  
  width: auto;  
  padding: 12px 30px;  
}
```


A component with sub-parts

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Politics & Society



84

How Leaks about NSA Surveillance Affect America's Role Around the Globe

 PRI's The World | June 10, 2013

The hot topic for President Obama's summit this Friday with the Chinese President Xi Jinping was supposed to be over China's efforts at cyber espionage.

Now there's another hot cyber-security topic to add to the agenda. Revelations this week about the US government's ongoing surveillance ...

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celebrates Beirut's 40th

.feature

A component with sub-parts

```
.feature,  
%feature {  
    @include mediaquery(601px) {  
        overflow: hidden;  
    }  
}  
  
.feature__title,  
%feature__title {  
    padding-top: 20px;  
    @include adjust-font-size-to(25px, 1.25);  
  
    @include mediaquery(321px){  
        @include adjust-font-size-to(31px, 1.325);  
    }  
}  
  
%feature__title-link {  
    color: $drk-gray;  
}  
  
%feature__title-link-is-hover {  
    color: $orange;
```


A SMACSS “state”

```
.feature__body,  
%feature__body {  
  color: $md-gray;  
  margin-bottom: 0;  
  
  &.is-optional {  
    display: none;  
    @include mediaquery(601px){  
      display: block;  
    }  
  }  
}
```


The “fugly” selector hack

```
.feature__title a {  
  &:link,  
  &:visited {  
    @extend %feature__title-link;  
  }  
  &:hover,  
  &:focus {  
    @extend %feature__title-link-is-hover;  
  }  
}
```

Selector in DOM
I couldn't change

Class name I wish
I could use in DOM

On the meaning of semantics

se·man·tics  [si-man-tiks]

noun (used with a singular verb)

1. *Linguistics* .

a. the study of meaning.

On the meaning of semantics

.omnomnomnom

is more semantic than

.blaagh

On the meaning of semantics

- ★ Content semantics
is handled by HTML5 elements
- ★ Design semantics
is handled by class names

Thank you!

Follow me on the Twitterz.
[@JohnAlbin](https://twitter.com/JohnAlbin)

