

# Prepare for a Global Audience with Plugin Internationalization



“Today you are You,  
that is truer than true.  
There is no one alive  
who is Youer than  
You.” - Dr. Seuss

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# Ben Lobaugh



- Not a designer :P
- Washington Native
- That VW Bus guy
- Sailor

- WP Seattle Organizer
- WebDev since 1998
- MS Open Technologies Inc.





Ben Lobaugh

11:56 PM





One Fish  
Two Fish  
That is how WordCampers do this

"Today you are You,  
that is truer than true.  
There is no one alive  
who is Youer than  
You." - Dr. Seuss

I'M A  
SPEAKER  
at  
WORDCAMP  
Orange County  
2013





# Session Overview

- What is Internationalization
- Why is it important
- How WordPress does i18n
- Some theory stuff
- U can haz toolz



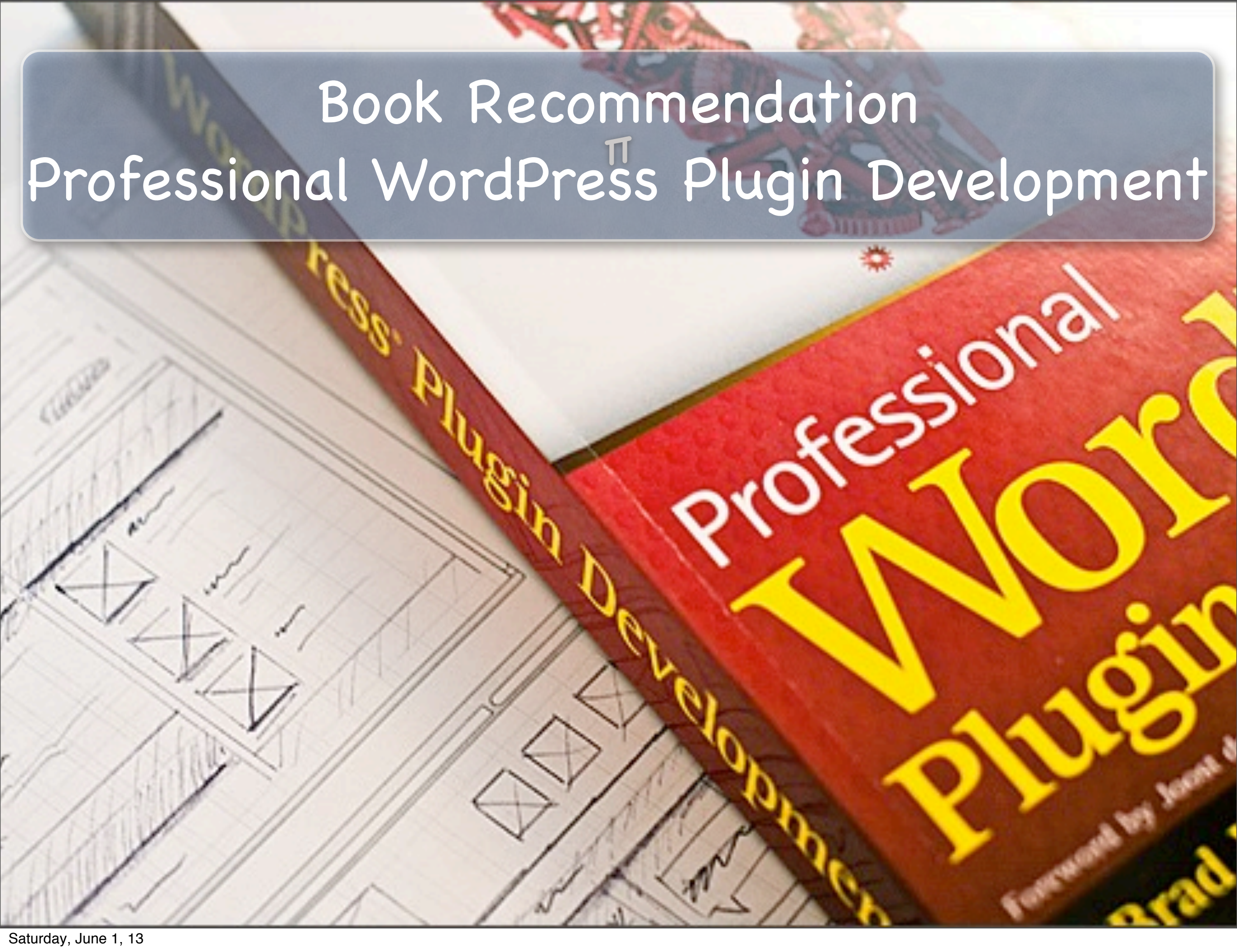
# What is Internationalization?

“Internationalization is the act of preparing your plugin for use in any number of languages”

- Brad Williams or Ozh Richards or Justin Tadlock, but probably their editor



# Book Recommendation Professional WordPress Plugin Development





# i18n??? L10n???

i18n:

- shorthand term for internationalization
- first letter : 18 chars : last letter

L10n:

- shorthand term for localization
- first letter : 10 chars : last letter



# How WordPress does i18n

- Developers marks specific strings as translatable
- WordPress loads language specified in `wp-config.php`
- Marked string is replaced with string from translated language file



# Code Samples from Misspelling Reporter

<http://github.com/lobaugh/misspelling-reporter>





# Yay Functions!



# load\_plugin\_textdomain()

Loads translation file

Parameters:

- \$domain - Unique plugin identifier
- false - Seriously, send in false. That is all
- \$lang\_path - Path to language files

```
load_plugin_textdomain( 'missr', false, dirname( plugin_basename( __FILE__ ) ) . '/languages/' );
```



—()

Returns string to be translated

Parameters:

- \$text - Do you really have to ask?
- \$domain -Used for text domain

```
$text = ( 'Misspelling Reported', 'missr' );
```



# \_e()

Outputs (echos) string to be translated

Parameters:

- \$text - Do you really have to ask?
- \$domain - Used for text domain

```
_e( 'Misspelling Reported', 'missr' );
```



# \_n()

Returns singular or plural string to be translated.

Parameters:

- \$singular - Singular form of text
- \$plural - Plural form of text
- \$count - Deciding number
- \$domain - Used for text domain

```
$text = _n(  
    'Misspelled Word',  
    'Misspelled Words',  
    $count,  
    'missr' );
```



# \_n()

Returns singular or plural string to be translated.

Parameters:

- \$singular - Singular form of text
- \$plural - Plural form of text
- \$count - Deciding number
- \$domain - Used for text domain

```
$text = _n(  
    'Misspelled Word',  
    'Misspelled Words',  
    $count,  
    'missr' );
```



Some theory stuff

**BAZINGA!**



# No constants!

Translation tools do not run PHP and therefore will not be able to pick up your text domain from a constant.



# Language patterns

Not all languages are structured the same as English. In fact there are many dialects of English around the world and a word may not be appropriate for all dialects in all locations.



# PHP variables

Translation tools do not run PHP and therefore will not be able to pick up the full string. Also creates infinite strings that is impossible to translate.



# Avoid HTML

Do not put HTML in your strings. Translators should not be forced to deal with it.



# sprintf is magic

Show using placeholders. This also solves the language structure issue

```
$string = sprintf(  
    __('You have %1$d tacos and %2$d burritos', 'plugin-domain'),  
    $taco_count,  
    $burrito_count  
);
```





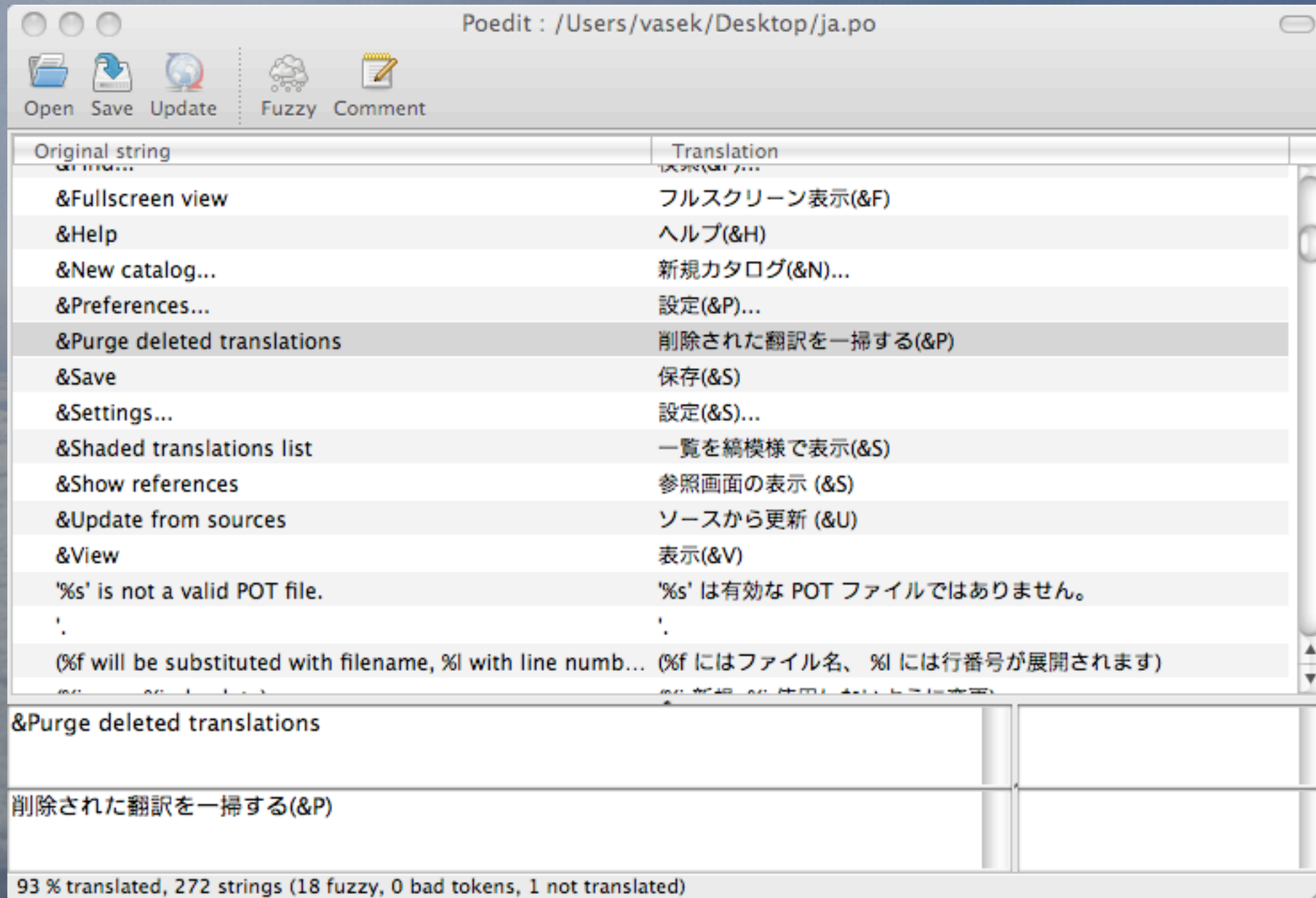
U can haz toolz



# Poedit

## Local Translation

<http://www.poedit.net>





# Poeditor

Online Translation  
<http://poeditor.com>

Home / Projects / Translator / French ← Back to Translator

**Translator - French** Switch to Interactive [Options](#)

63.64% 28/44 Order: Original Show: All Search

<input type="checkbox"/>	21	The old password is wrong	L'ancien mot de passe est erroné	
<input type="checkbox"/>	22	The new password is mandatory	Le nouveau mot de passe est obligatoire	
<input type="checkbox"/>	23	New password and confirmation don't match	Confirmation et le nouveau mot de passe ne correspondent pas	
<input type="checkbox"/>	24	You didn't fill in the password	<input type="text" value="Vous ne remplissez le mot de p"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	25	You didn't confirm the password	<input type="text"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	26	The password and confirmation don't match	<input type="text"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	27	name is mandatory!	<input type="text"/>	



Ben Lobaugh

1:13 AM



# Questions?



\*Obligatory Cat Picture