

A Literate Approach for Improving the Verifiability, Reusability and Reproducibility of Scientific Computing Software

Spencer Smith, Jacques Carette, Dan Szymczak,
Steven Palmer

Computing and Software Department
Faculty of Engineering
McMaster University

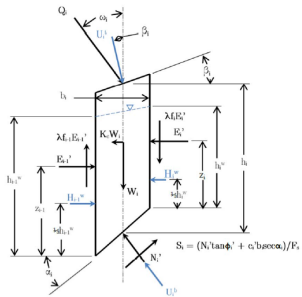
CAIMS 2017, Third Canadian Symposium in Numerical
Analysis and Scientific Computing (CSNASC):
Simulation, July 18, 2017

- **Goal** – Improve quality of {SCS}
- **Idea** – Adapt ideas from SE
- **Document Driven Design**
 - Good – improves quality
 - Bad – “manual” approach is too much work
- **Solution**
 - Capture knowledge
 - Generate all things
 - Avoid duplication
 - Traceability
- **Showing great promise**
 - Significant work yet to do
 - Looking for examples/partners

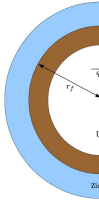
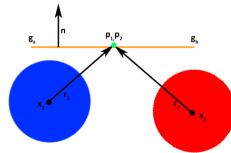


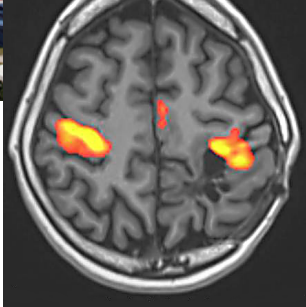






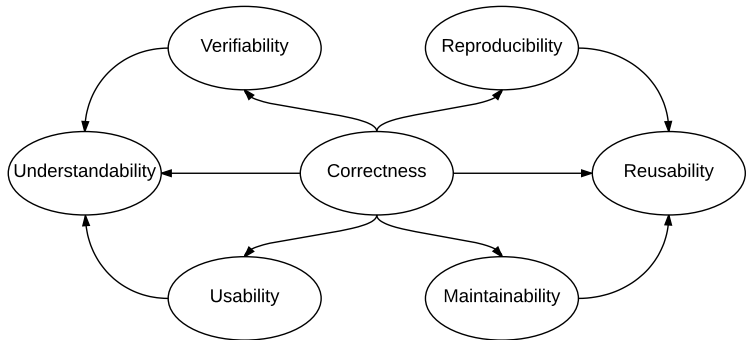
...ce



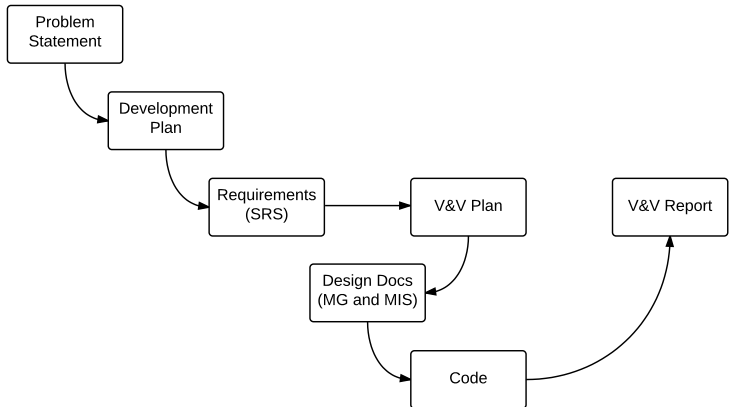




Motivation: Improve Quality



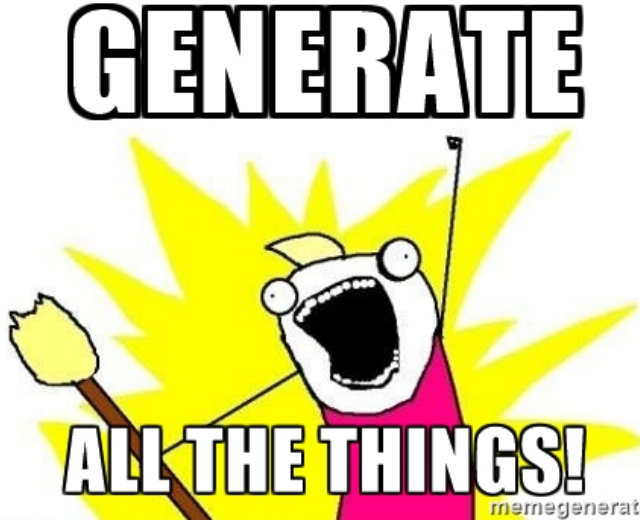
“Faked” Rational Design Process



SWHS example at <https://github.com/smiths/swhs>

The Challenge

- Documentation provides advantages
 - Improves verifiability, reusability, reproducibility, etc.
 - From ?
 - easier reuse of old designs
 - better communication about requirements
 - more useful design reviews
 - etc.
 - New doc found 27 errors (?)
 - Developers see advantage (?)
- But documentation is felt to be ...
 - Too long
 - Too difficult to maintain
 - Not amenable to change
 - Too tied to waterfall process
 - Reports counterproductive (?)
- **The Solution?**

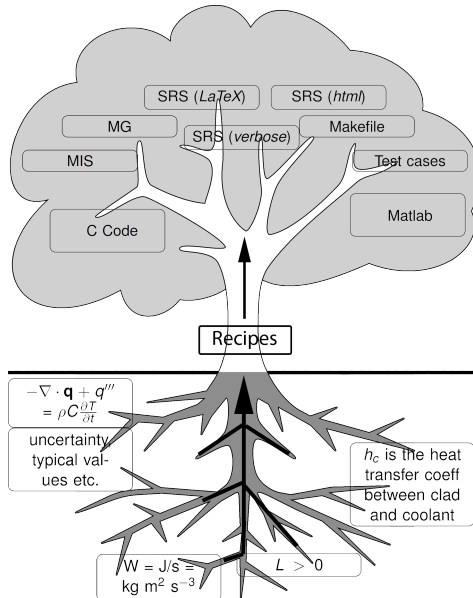


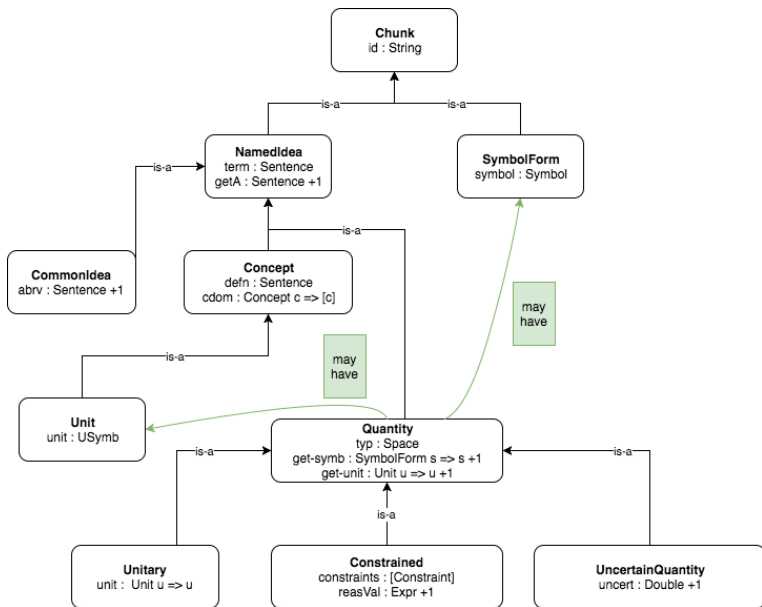


Knowledge Capture

Slide 13 of ??







Refname	DD:sdf.tol
Label	J_{tol}
Units	
Equation	$J_{tol} = \log \left(\log \left(\frac{1}{1-P_{btol}} \right) \frac{\left(\frac{a}{1000} \frac{b}{1000} \right)^{m-1}}{k \left((E*1000) \left(\frac{h}{1000} \right)^2 \right)^m * LDF} \right)$
Description	<p>J_{tol} is the stress distribution factor (Function) based on P_{btol}</p> <p>P_{btol} is the tolerable probability of breakage</p> <p>a is the plate length (long dimension)</p> <p>b is the plate width (short dimension)</p> <p>m is the surface flaw parameter</p> <p>k is the surface flaw parameter</p> <p>E is the modulus of elasticity of glass</p> <p>h is the actual thickness</p> <p>LDF is the load duration factor</p>

J_{tol} in SRS.tex

```
\noindent \begin{minipage}{\textwidth}
\begin{tabular}{p{0.2\textwidth} p{0.73\textwidth}}
\toprule \textbf{Refname} & \textbf{DD:sdf.tol}
\phantomsection
\label{DD:sdf.tol}
\\ \midrule \\
Label &  $J_{tol}$ 
\\ \midrule \\
Units &
\\ \midrule \\
Equation &  $J_{tol} = \log\left(\log\left(\frac{1}{1-P_{btol}}\right)\frac{\left(\frac{a}{1000}\right)\frac{b}{1000}\right)^{m-1}\{k\left(\left(E*1000\right)\left(\frac{h}{1000}\right)^2\right)^m*LDF}\right)$ 
\\ \midrule \\
Description &  $J_{tol}$  is the stress distribution factor
(Function) based on
Pbtol\newline $P_{btol}$  is the tolerable
probability of breakage ...
\end{minipage}
```

J_{tol} in SRS.html

```
<a id="">
<div class="equation">
<em>J<sub>tol</sub></em> = log(log(<div class="fraction">
<span class="fup">
1
</span>
<span class="fdn">
1 &minus; <em>P<sub>btol</sub></em>
</span>
</div>)<div class="fraction">
<span class="fup">
(<div class="fraction">
<span class="fup">
<em>a</em>
</span>
<span class="fdn">
1000
</span>
</div>)<div class="fraction">
...
```

J_{tol} in Python

```
def calc_j_tol(inparams):  
    j_tol = math.log((math.log(1.0 / (1.0 - inparams.  
        pbtol))) * (((inparams.a / 1000.0) * (inparams.b  
            / 1000.0)) ** (inparams.m - 1.0)) / ((inparams.k  
                * (((inparams.E * 1000.0) * ((inparams.h /  
                    1000.0) ** 2.0)) ** inparams.m)) * inparams.ldf))  
    )  
    return j_tol
```

J_{tol} in Java

```
public static double calc_j_tol(InputParameters inparams)
{
    double j_tol = Math.log((Math.log(1.0 / (1.0 -
        inparams.pb_tol))) * ((Math.pow((inparams.a /
        1000.0) * (inparams.b / 1000.0), inparams.m -
        1.0)) / ((inparams.k * (Math.pow((inparams.E
        * 1000.0) * (Math.pow(inparams.h / 1000.0,
        2.0))), inparams.m))) * inparams.ldf)));
    return j_tol;
}
```

J_{tol} in Drasil (Haskell)

```
stressDistFac = makeVC "stressDistFac" (nounPhraseSP
  $ "stress distribution" ++ " factor (Function)") cJ

sdf_tol = makeVC "sdf_tol" (nounPhraseSP $
  "stress distribution" ++
  " factor (Function) based on Pbtol")
  (sub (stressDistFac ^. symbol) (Atomic "tol"))

tolStrDisFac_eq :: Expr
tolStrDisFac_eq = log (log ((1) / ((1) - (C pb_tol))))
  * ((Grouping (((C plate_len) / (1000)) * ((C
    plate_width) / (1000)))) :^
    ((C sflawParamM) - (1)) / ((C sflawParamK) *
    (Grouping (Grouping ((C mod_elas) * (1000)) *
    (square (Grouping ((C act_thick) / (1000))))
    )) :^ (C sflawParamM) * (C loadDF))))

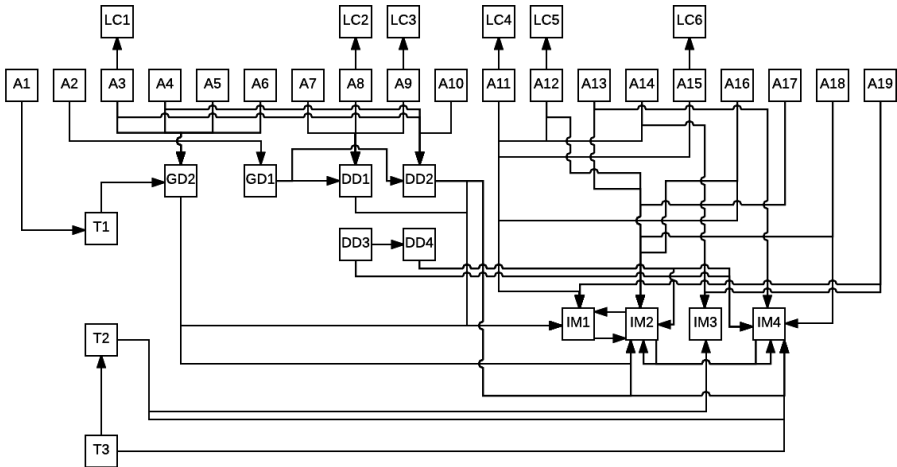
tolStrDisFac :: QDefinition
tolStrDisFac = mkDataDef sdf_tol tolStrDisFac_eq
```

J_{tol} without Unit Conversion

```
tolStrDisFac_eq :: Expr
tolStrDisFac_eq = log (log ((1) / ((1) - (C pb_tol)))
  * ((Grouping ((C plate_len) * (C plate_width))) :^
    ((C sflawParamM) - (1)) / ((C sflawParamK) *
    (Grouping ((C mod_elas) * (square (C act_thick)))) :^ (
      C sflawParamM) * (C loadDF))))
```

1	Reference Material	3
1.1	Table of Units	3
1.2	Table of Symbols	3
1.3	Abbreviations and Acronyms	4
2	Introduction	5
2.1	Purpose of Document	5
2.2	Scope of Requirements	5
2.3	Characteristics of Intended Reader	6
2.4	Organization of Document	6
3	Stakeholders	6
3.1	The Client	6
3.2	The Customer	6
4	General System Description	6
4.1	User Characteristics	7
4.2	System Constraints	7
5	Scope of the Project	7
5.1	Product Use Case Table	7
5.2	Individual Product Use Cases	7
6	Specific System Description	8
6.1	Problem Description	8
6.1.1	Terminology and Definitions	8
6.1.2	Physical System Description	10
6.1.3	Goal Statements	10
6.2	Solution Characteristics Specification	10
6.2.1	Assumptions	10
6.2.2	Theoretical Models	12
6.2.3	General Definitions	13
6.2.4	Data Definitions	13
6.2.5	Instance Models	17
6.2.6	Data Constraints	18
7	Requirements	19
7.1	Functional Requirements	19
7.2	Non-Functional Requirements	21
8	Likely Changes	21

Traceability Graph



Verifiability

Var	Constraints	Typical Value	Uncertainty
L	$L > 0$	1.5 m	10%
ρ_P	$\rho_P > 0$	1007 kg/m ³	10%

$$E_W = \int_0^t h_C A_C (T_C - T_W(t)) dt - \int_0^t h_P A_P (T_W(t) - T_P(t)) dt$$

- If wrong, wrong everywhere
- Sanity checks captured and reused
- Generate guards against invalid input
- Generate test cases
- Generate view suitable for inspection
- Traceability for verification of change

Reusability

- De-embed knowledge
- Reuse throughout document
 - Units
 - Symbols
 - Descriptions
 - Traceability information
- Reuse between documents
 - SRS
 - MIS
 - Code
 - Test cases
- Reuse between projects
 - Knowledge reuse
 - A family of related models, or reuse of pieces
 - Conservation of thermal energy
 - Interpolation
 - Etc.

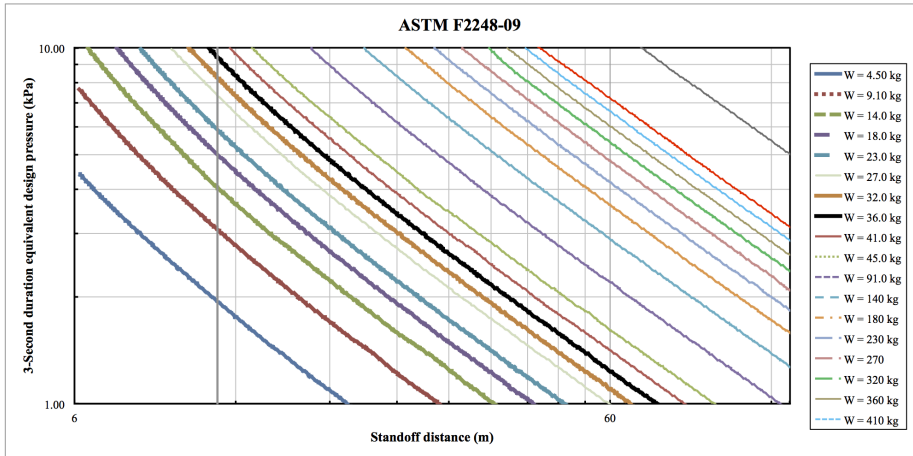
Reproducibility

- Usual emphasis is on reproducing code execution
- However, ? show reproducibility challenges due to undocumented:
 - Assumptions
 - Modifications
 - Hacks
- Shouldn't it be easier to independently replicate the work of others?
- Require theory, assumptions, equations, etc.
- Drasil can potentially check for completeness and consistency

NO



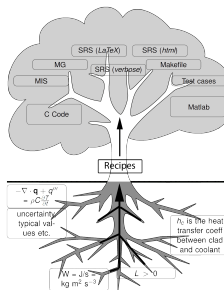
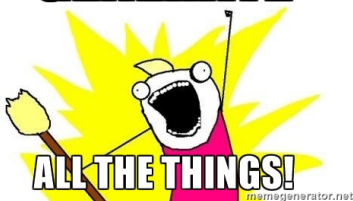
Future Work



Drasil Framework for LSS

- SCS has the opportunity to lead other software fields
- Document driven design is feasible
- Requires an investment of time
- Documentation does not have to be painful
- Develop/refactor via practical case studies
- Ontology may naturally emerge

GENERATE



References I