

# SE 3XA3: Requirements Document Genetic Cars

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Table 1: **Revision History**

Date	Version	Notes
October 7, 2016	1.0	Started Functional Requirements
October 10, 2016	1.1	Updated Functional Requirements
October 11, 2016	1.2	Added Context Diagram
October 11, 2016	1.3	Added Work Partitioning Table
October 11, 2016	1.4	Added Off-the-Shelf Solutions
October 11, 2016	1.5	Added to Non-Functional Reqs and Section 1

# **1 Project Drivers**

## **1.1 The Purpose of the Project**

### **1.1.1 Project Background**

Genetic algorithms serve as useful tools to search for near-optimal solutions to a wide variety of problems with incomplete or imperfect information by emulating the process of natural selection. The driving force for this project was the observed lack of genetic algorithm teaching tools.

### **1.1.2 Project Goals**

The primary goal of this project is to create a product that will teach users about the uses and theory behind genetic algorithms. The product must be engaging enough to maintain user interest while also bestowing them with practical knowledge about genetic algorithms. The success of this project will therefore be measured by both the engagement of the user and the increase in the user's practical knowledge of genetic algorithms.

## **1.2 The Stakeholders**

### **1.2.1 The Client**

The primary client of the Genetic Cars project is also the project's target audience, those with an academic interest in learning about genetic algorithms. This target audience is estimated to fall in the aged 16-24 student demographic. Since the Genetic Cars project does not have one formal client with whom to discuss the project's requirements, all project requirements are derived from the requirements of the project's target audience. These requirements were elicited via anonymous interviews with perspective users initially, however long term testing and user feedback shall serve to further specify and clarify requirements.

### **1.2.2 The Customers**

The customers for the Genetic Cars project are the users outlined above. Assumptions about these user are listed in section 1.5.1 of this document.

### 1.2.3 Other Stakeholders

Other stakeholders for this project include:

-Testers: Those individuals who will aid in the testing of our product, by filling out surveys and providing feedback on the project. Significant crossover with our target audience for obvious reasons. Will provide the primary means of communication with our customers for this reason.

-Third-party technology experts: Those individuals who will help Grate learn about the technologies necessary for this project, as outlined in the design document and during team meetings. While not officially members of Grate, their aid will prove invaluable to learning the technologies necessary for this project to function, and they will be credited in final documentation.

-McMaster University library staff and faculty: Those individuals and services that will be interacted with to facilitate group meetings as outlined in the design document.

## 1.3 Mandated Constraints

### 1.3.1 Scheduling Constraints

This project shall adhere to the scheduling constraints outlined in below, with deliverables mandated to be completed by the dates outlined there.

Team Formation	Week of September 12
Project Approval	Week of September 19
Problem Statement	September 23
Development Plan	September 30
Requirements Document Revision 0	October 7
Proof of Concept Demonstration	Week of October 17
Test Plan Revision 0	October 28
Design Document Revision 0	November 11
Revision 0 Demonstration	Week of November 14
Lab Exercises	Throughout Term
Final Demonstration (Revision 1)	Week of November 28
Peer Evaluation of Other Team	Week of November 28
Final Documentation (Revision 1)	December 8

### **1.3.2 Budgetary and Technology Constraints**

This project shall not allow for the purchase of any third party product or service, as this project has no budget with which to acquire these. The product must also be compatible to technology that can be used freely by the users of the product without legal or monetary recourse.

## **1.4 Naming Conventions and Terminology**

**Gene:** A unit of heredity that is transferred from a parent to offspring and is held to determine some characteristic of the offspring. In this program a 'gene' will posses some variable of the car (number of wheels, size of each wheel, etc.) that is passed on to the next generation of car using genetic algorithms.

**Population:** The total amount of cars in the program. The genes available for the next generation are limited to the combinations of genes possible. Each car in the next generation is comprised of the genes of two cars in the population.

**Sample:** A portion drawn from a population, the study of which is intended to lead to statistical estimates of the attributes of the whole population.

**Generation:** The current iteration of cars in the program. Each new generation is composed of the mutation of the previous generation's genes.

**Trait:** A characteristic of the car determined by the genes a car possesses (i.e. the position of the wheels for one of the cars).

**Attribute:** Same as trait (used interchangeably with trait).

**Mutate:** To undergo or cause to undergo change in a gene or genes. This occurs after each generation of cars to varying extents determined by the mutation rate.

**Mutation Rate:** The rate at which mutations (seen above) occur. Can be varied in the program to increase or decrease the speed of convergence

towards a more fit car.

Crossover: The exchange of genes between cars as part of how two cars reproduce in the program.

Reproduce: To produce a new car in a new generation by means of genetic propagation between two cars of the previous generation.

Random Seed: A number used to initialize a pseudorandom number generator. Will be used here to generate a pseudorandom member of the initial population for example.

## **1.5 Relevant Facts and Assumptions**

### **1.5.1 User Assumptions**

The user base for this product consists of those wishing to learn more about genetic algorithms. It is assumed that this demographic consists primarily of secondary school and post-secondary students aged 16-24. This demographic is assumed to be very familiar with software applications and especially web-based software applications. This demographic is also assumed to have some preliminary background in both secondary school level evolutionary biology and basic mathematics. Finally, the users of this product are assumed to possess a level of maturity required to appreciate the academic portions of the product.

### **1.5.2 Other Assumptions**

Grate assumes that all software tools listed in the development document will be available for use throughout the project. It is also assumed that the physics library being used is fully complete, although this assumption will be tested thoroughly throughout the lifetime of this project.



## 2 Functional Requirements

### 2.1 The Scope of the Work and the Product

#### 2.1.1 The Context of the Work

The following depicts a context diagram for Grate's Genetic Cars:

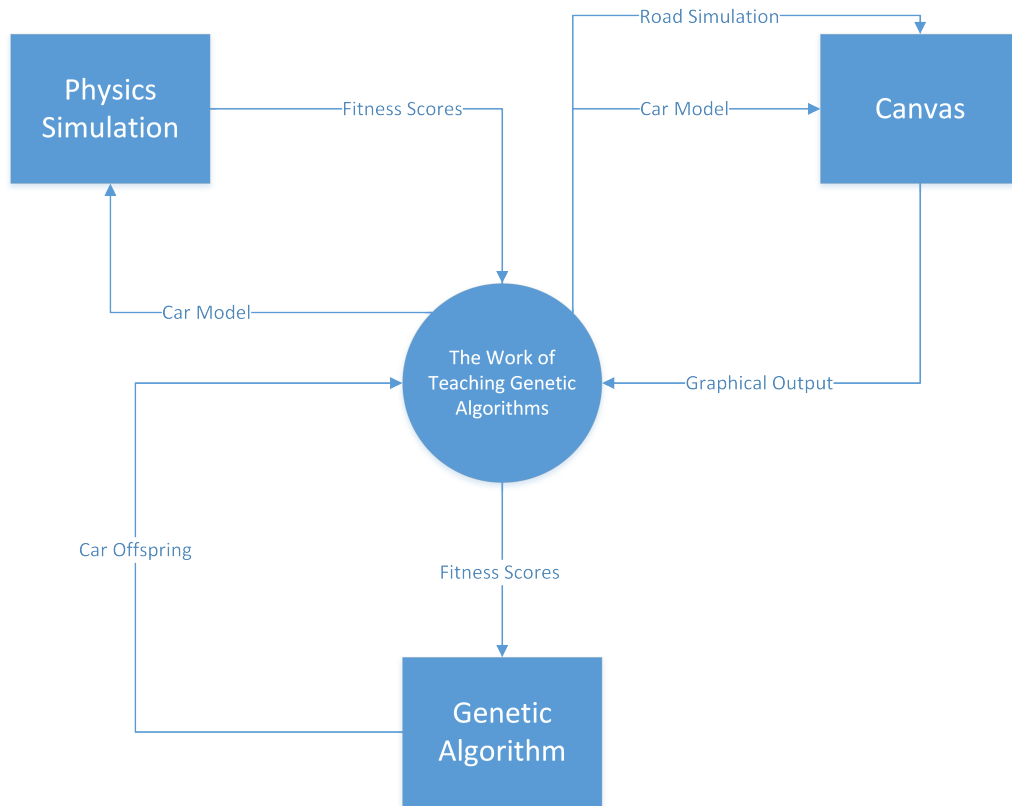


Figure 1: The Context Diagram for Grate's Genetic Cars

### 2.1.2 Work Partitioning

Event Name	Input and Output	Summary
1. Physics Simulation simulates generation	Car Offspring (in), Fitness Scores (out)	Calculate parents for the next generation
2. Canvas displays car results	Car model (in), Road simulation (in), Graphical Display (out)	Draw car model, Track top cars, Restart at the end of the generation
3. Genetic algorithm generates new generation	Fitness Scores (in), Car Offspring (out)	Selects parents from fitness scores, Cross over genes, Mutate genes

Table 2: **Work Partitioning Table**

### 2.1.3 Individual Product Use Cases

#### 1. Normal Operation

- User launches program.
- The Genetic Algorithm generates a random seed.
- The random seed is used to generate offspring using the default parameters.
- The Physics Simulation takes the offspring (Car Model) and performs physics simulations to determine their fitness score.
- The results are sent to the Canvas, which displays the results graphically.
- The fitness scores are sent back to the Genetic Algorithm to generate new offspring.

#### 2. User Modifies Any Parameter

- User launches program.

- User modifies fields in the program that pertain to the Genetic Algorithm's attributes.
- The Genetic Algorithm generates offspring based on the user's input.
- The Physics Simulation takes the offspring (Car Model) and performs physics simulations to determine their fitness score.
- The results are sent to the Canvas, which displays the results graphically.
- The fitness scores are sent back to the Genetic Algorithm to generate new offspring.

## 2.2 Functional Requirements

Requirement #: 1 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** Each car must be composed of at least  $v$  vectors.

**Rationale:** This requirement manages the complexity of the car model, allowing for realistic distribution of traits among members of a population. That is, this prevents large cars from being generated and using an excessive amount of memory.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** No car generated within population  $p$  shall be composed of more than  $v$  vectors.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 2 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** Each car may not have more than *number\_of\_vertices* wheels.

**Rationale:** The wheels must be attached to the car via a vertex between two connecting vectors. This requirement ensures that no redundant or unused wheels will be generated.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** No car generated within population  $p$  shall be composed of more than *number\_of\_vertices* wheels.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 3 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The radius of each wheel must be at most  $r$  units.

**Rationale:** This requirement manages the complexity of the car model, allowing for realistic distribution of traits among members of a population. That is, cars with unrealistically sized wheels will not be generated.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** No cars generated will have wheels with a radius larger than  $r$ .

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 4 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The center of each wheel generated must be attached to a vertex formed by connecting vectors.

**Rationale:** Wheels cannot be floating on or around the car. This requirement ensures visual coherency by requiring wheels to be attached to the car model. Knowing the center of the wheel will also allow the physics engine to calculate the torque and distance that the car travelled.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** Each wheel displayed on the screen is attached to a vertex formed by connecting vectors.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 5 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The mass of each car must not be less than *min\_weight*.

**Rationale:** In order to have realistic physical simulations of car models, the mass of the car must have a lower limit. The lower limit will guarantee the simulations to work as expected.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** The mass of any car models generated are greater than *min\_weight*.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 6 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The mass of each car must not exceed *max\_weight*.

**Rationale:** In order to have realistic physical simulations of car models, the mass of each car must have an upper limit. An upper limit reduces the possibility of type incompatibility with certain APIs. Additionally, it ensures that the mass of each car is encoded using a known number of bits.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** The mass of any car models generated do not exceed *max\_weight*.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 7 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The program shall display each generation of cars traversing the road.

**Rationale:** The purpose of this program is to show its users the effects of genetic algorithms in an interesting and engaging manner. If the program did not display each generation of cars traversing the road, then the program would fail in accomplishing its original objective.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** Each generation of cars can be seen traversing a road on the medium of output.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 8 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The program shall display the fitness of the top  $n$  cars.

**Rationale:** The ability to compare the performance of cars during each generation is useful for observing the effects of genetic algorithms because it shows the users the improvement and regression of the car's performance over time.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** A medium of output exists to provide the fitness of the car on the medium of display.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 9 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The program shall allow the user to enter a random seed to generate cars from in lieu of a randomly generated seed.

**Rationale:** The ability to enter a random seed allows the results of cars to be compared and to be run on multiple computers: results are not lost as a result of restarting the application.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** The user can input a random seed into the program through an input device, and the random seed is used to dictate the random behaviours of the program.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 10 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The user shall be allowed to modify the mutation rate, *mutation\_rate*.

**Rationale:** Allowing the users to modify the mutation rate allows the program to fulfil its objective by showing the users how the mutation rate can impact the performance of the cars.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** The user can input a mutation rate into the program through an input device, and the mutation rate is used to produce offspring in the program.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 11 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The user shall be allowed to change the number of cars per generation  $s$  in lieu of the default value.

**Rationale:** Allowing the user to change the number of cars per generation  $s$  will allow the user to see how the size of a generation affects the genetic algorithm.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:**  $s$  is equal to the user's input for every generation produced by the program.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016



Requirement #: 12 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The road generated must be the same across all generations.

**Rationale:** Using the same road for each generation allows for comparability of performance between each generation. That is, since every car will traverse the same course, their fitness and performance can be compared.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** The road for all simulations is the same.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 13 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The product must generate at least  $s$  car samples per generation.

**Rationale:** GAs improve by having a large number of samples (representing members in a population) intermix traits. This requirement allows the GA to work by guaranteeing that a sufficient sample will be present at all times.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** Given a user generated input,  $s$ , the program should generate  $s$  cars for each generation.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 14 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The number of cars per generation  $s$  shall not exceed *max\_cars\_per\_gen*.

**Rationale:** Having a maximum number of cars per generation prevents memory overflow from generating too many cars per generation.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** The number of cars generated per generation does not exceed *max\_cars\_per\_gen*.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 15 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The program shall use the top  $t$  cars to generate offsprings.

**Rationale:** The number of cars allowed to reproduce needs to be specified; otherwise, no improvement can be made in car performance over the generations.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** The parent cars of the offspring are within the top  $t$  cars.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 16 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The top  $t$  cars shall not exceed  $t_{max}$ .

**Rationale:** This restriction prevents  $t$  from exceeding  $s$  or take on an unreasonable value. It ensures that the program can always run by setting an upper limit to the number of cars that can reproduce in a given generation.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** The number of cars to choose from during reproduction does not exceed  $t_{max}$ .

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 17 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The top  $t$  cars shall not be less than  $t_{min}$ .

**Rationale:** This requirement ensures that there will be a sufficient number of cars to produce offspring in the subsequent generations.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** In each generation, there are at least  $t_{min}$  parents to generate offspring.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 18 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** A car that stalls for more than *max\_secs* shall be deemed non-moving.

**Rationale:** A time limit needs to be imposed on the simulations in order to prevent the cars from running indefinitely without making progress.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** All cars that stay in the same spot for *max\_secs* are marked as non-moving and the simulation for that car is stopped.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 19 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The fitness of a car shall not be calculated until a car is deemed to be non-moving.

**Rationale:** The fitness of a car is determined by distance it moves during the simulation, and the simulation runs while the car is moving. Therefore, the fitness of a car cannot be determined until the car is non-moving.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** After a car is deemed non-moving, its fitness value can be assessed.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 20 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** The user shall be able to specify *t* in lieu of the default value.

**Rationale:** This will allow users to see the effect of changing the selectivity of the genetic algorithm.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** In each generation, *t* cars are chosen to generate offspring.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## 3 Non-functional Requirements

### 3.1 Look and Feel Requirements

As discussed in section 1.2 of this document, the users of this product include students and others interested in learning about genetic algorithms. With this in mind, the Genetic Cars project must be accessible to those without a background in mathematics or computer science. This accessibility begins with the look and feel of the project. The Genetic Cars project should appear aesthetically pleasing while still presenting its functions in as clean a manner as possible.

#### 3.1.1 Appearance Requirements

Requirement #: 21 Requirement Type: Non-Functional  
**Description:** The product shall be attractive to a student audience.  
**Rationale:** Part of the learning process is maintaining the attention of the users of the product. If users do not want to look at the product, it will be impossible to teach them anything.  
**Originator:** Eric Chaput  
**Fit Criterion:** A sampling of respective users shall, without prompting or enticement, be able to comprehend and use the product within sixty seconds of their first encounter with it. This same sampling shall also rate the appearance of the product on a scale from 1 to 10, and this rating shall be used to evaluate the requirement.  
**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript  
**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### 3.1.2 Style Requirements

Requirement #: 22 Requirement Type: Non-Functional

**Description:** The product shall appear inviting, educational, and professional.

**Rationale:** If users do not believe our product contains a certain style, they will not respect it, and therefore, they will not use it.

**Originator:** Eric Chaput

**Fit Criterion:** 60% of representative users shall agree that they feel they would want to use the product based on the professional and inviting style it contains. This majority should also agree that they can trust the product.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## 3.2 Usability and Humanity Requirements

### 3.2.1 Ease of Use Requirements

Requirement #: 23 Requirement Type: Non-Functional

**Description:** The product shall be easy for anybody over the age of 6 to use. The product shall make the user want to use it and to show the product to their friends/family/etc.. The product shall be used by people with no training or education except for a basic knowledge of the English language and the most very basic functions of a computer, such as how to navigate to a web-site and how to enter inputs when prompted to do so.

**Rationale:** In order for our product to reach a wide audience, it must be usable by a wide audience.

**Originator:** Eric Chaput

**Fit Criterion:** 50% of users shall be able to successfully complete a given set of tasks with the product within a specified period of time to be determined at the time of the sample. The representative sample shall also show a willingness to show the product to others.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### 3.2.2 Personalization Requirements

Requirement #: 24 Requirement Type: Non-Functional

**Description:** The product shall allow the user to make simple adjustments to the product to allow for a variable length and amount of trials depending on user input.

**Rationale:** Interactivity is key to the learning process. The more interactive a product is the more likely a user is to maintain interest in it.

**Originator:** Eric Chaput

**Fit Criterion:** A simple check can be made to see if this possible.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### 3.2.3 Learning Requirements

Requirement #: 25 Requirement Type: Non-Functional

**Description:** The product shall be easy for an intended user of the product to learn. The product shall be able to be used by these users with no training before use.

**Rationale:** The user should be focusing on learning about genetic algorithms, not on learning how to use the product.

**Originator:** Eric Chaput

**Fit Criterion:** 50% of users shall be able to successfully complete a given set of tasks with the product within a specified period of time to be determined at the time of the sample.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### 3.3 Performance Requirements

#### 3.3.1 Speed and Latency Requirements

Requirement #: 26 Requirement Type: Non-Functional

**Description:** The response time of the product shall be fast enough to avoid a loss of interest by the user following an input, which shall be a period of time no longer than five seconds. The initialization of the product shall be rapid.

**Rationale:** The user should be focusing on learning about genetic algorithms, not on waiting to use the product.

**Originator:** Eric Chaput

**Fit Criterion:** Initialization shall be no longer than one minute. A majority representation of users shall be surveyed about the reaction time and requested to label their satisfaction with this time on a scale from one to ten. This survey data will then be analysed for feedback.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

#### 3.3.2 Precision and Reliability Requirements

Requirement #: 27 Requirement Type: Non-Functional

**Description:** The product shall always converge towards a more optimal car. The product shall achieve near-optimal uptime. The product's numerical values shall be accurate.

**Rationale:** A learning product that is not accurate and reliable will not be taken seriously.

**Originator:** Eric Chaput

**Fit Criterion:** The product shall achieve 99 percent uptime. The product display of numerical values shall be accurate to two decimal places.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016



### 3.3.3 Longevity Requirements

Requirement #: 28 Requirement Type: Non-Functional

**Description:** The product shall be easy to update and upgrade following its initial public release.

**Rationale:** Long term sustainability will allow our product to reach more people over time.

**Originator:** Eric Chaput

**Fit Criterion:** The creation of the product will consist of a series of updates, so Grate shall determine by internal surveys the difficulty of updating the product.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### 3.4 Operational and Environmental Requirements

The Genetic Cars project does not possess any operational and environmental requirements of note.

### 3.5 Maintainability and Support Requirements

See longevity requirements (Section 3.3.3) for more on this.

### 3.6 Security Requirements

This product requires no disclosure of sensitive information by either the user or the software program itself so there are no security requirements beyond what one would expect of any software program.

### 3.7 Cultural Requirements

This product requires no tailoring to meet specific cultural needs so that are no cultural requirements beyond what one would expect of any software program.

### **3.8 Legal Requirements**

The Genetic Cars project does not possess any legal requirements of note as licensing is a non-issue for this project.

### **3.9 Health and Safety Requirements**

The Genetic Cars project does not possess any Health and Safety requirements of note beyond those that would be expected of any software program.

## **4 Project Issues**

### **4.1 Open Issues**

Not applicable for this project.

### **4.2 Off-the-Shelf Solutions**

#### **4.2.1 Ready-Made Product**

Similar solutions to Grate's Genetic Cars already exists, notably BoxCar2D ([boxcar2d.com/](http://boxcar2d.com/)) and Rednuht's Genetic Cars ([rednuht.org/genetic\\_cars\\_2/](http://rednuht.org/genetic_cars_2/)). Both products demonstrate the effect of genetic algorithms through evolving cars by selecting for the longest distance travel. They differ in that BoxCar2D displays one car at a time, whereas Rednuht's Genetic Cars displays all of the cars in one generation at once. They both allow users to adjust parameters of the genetic algorithm in order to observe the effects of the algorithm. They both show the performance of the cars over time.

#### **4.2.2 Reusable Components**

The Box2D API and the D3 API can both be reused in Grate's Genetic Cars. The Box2D API provides functionality such as Vectors and Polygons that can be used to model the car. The D3 API provides visualization functionality that can be used to visualize the performance of cars over time. These APIs provide functionality external to the core functionality of Grate's Genetic Cars, which will make them valuable assets as Grate will not have to reimplement these APIs.

### **4.2.3 Products That Can Be Copied**

Rednuht’s Genetic Cars is licensed under the author’s custom license which grants others the right to reuse his code as part of their solution. Furthermore, both BoxCar2D and Rednuht’s Genetic Cars have released their algorithms in some form: BoxCar2D through visuals and text, and Rednuht’s Genetic Cars through source code. Grate’s Genetic Cars can draw inspiration from these sources in implementing a new innovative solution to teaching genetic algorithms.

## **4.3 New Problems**

### **4.3.1 Effects on the Current Environment**

Not applicable for this project.

### **4.3.2 Effects on the Installed Systems**

Not applicable for this project.

### **4.3.3 Potential User Problems**

Users may experience fatigue from prolong use of the product. Symptoms of fatigue can include eyestrain, dizziness, nausea, muscle pain, or general discomfort (Nintendo, 2016). To prevent fatigue, users should take periodic breaks when using the program for prolonged periods of time (Nintendo, 2016). However, fatigue should not pose a significant risk for this project, as the target audience for Grate’s Genetic Cars is older teenagers and adults who have prior experience using computers and are knowledgeable about the health concerns associated with prolong use of computers.

Users with epilepsy or prior history of seizures may also experience seizures or blackouts while using the product (Nintendo, 2016). Symptoms of seizures may include convulsions, eye or muscle twitching, loss of awareness, altered vision, involuntary movements, and disorientation (Nintendo, 2016). However, this risk is not significant as the risk of having a seizure from light flashes or patterns is low (about 1 in 4000), and the likelihood of experiencing a seizure can be reduced through simple steps (Nintendo, 2016). Users can reduce the risk of experience seizures while using the product if they sit or stand away from the screen, use the smallest screen possible, use the

product in a well lit room, take frequent breaks, and refrain from using the product if tired (Nintendo, 2016).

#### 4.3.4 Limitations in the Anticipated Implementation Environment that May Inhibit the New Product

Not applicable for this project.

#### 4.3.5 Follow-up Problems

The implementation environment may become depreciated before the completion of the project, and the platforms the product is built for may no longer support the product after completion of implementation. This is a significant risk as modern programming languages and operating platforms are constantly evolving; however, this risk can be mitigated through writing maintainable code that can be converted to new standards as they arise.

### 4.4 Tasks

#### 4.4.1 Project Planning

The V-Model of Software Development will be used in the development of this project. The V-Model to be followed is depicted below:

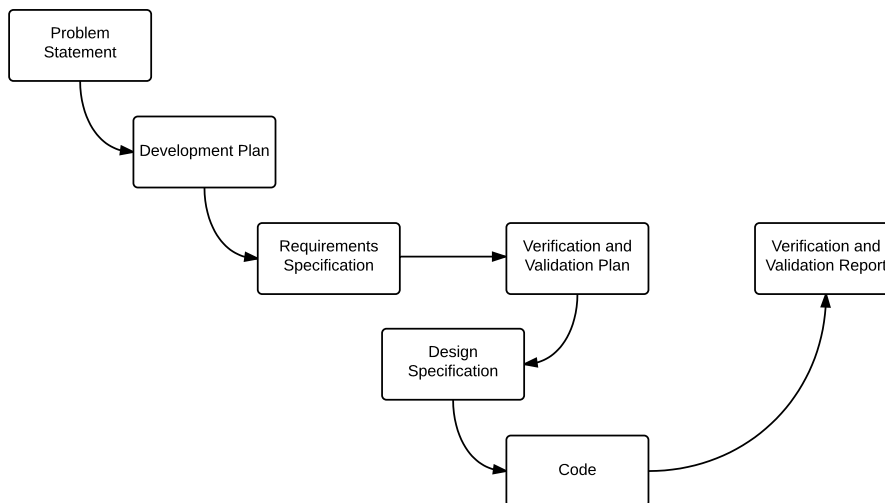


Figure 2: The V-Model of Software Development (Smith, 2016)

Grate is dedicated to writing high quality code through the application of strong software engineering principles. In order to meet that standard, the project will begin separated into 3 main stages. First, an extensive design and documentation phase before any part of the system is implemented. Once the project has been designed, then coding can commence. At the conclusion of coding, there will be an extensive testing and validation phase in order to build confidence in the functionality of the final product. The total time anticipated for this project is 4 months.

The design phase contains 6 deliverables: the problem statement, the development plan, the requirements specifications, the verification and validation plan, and the design specification. Creating the problem statement and the development plan should both take about 1 week. Creating the requirements specification, the verification and validation plan, and the design specification will all take about 2 weeks.

The coding phase involves implementing the project following the design specifications. The implementation of the project will take about 3 weeks.

Verification and Validation involves testing the project following the Verification and Validation Plan. The verification and validation of the project will take about 2 weeks.

Note that, despite the arrows in the diagram, this is an iterative process. This means that processes can happen more than once during the development process, with each iteration making improvements upon the previous iteration. Steps can also be skipped within iterations, or be performed out of order if deemed necessary.

#### **4.4.2 Planning of the Development Phases**

Not applicable for this project.

### **4.5 Migration to the New Product**

Not applicable for this project.

### **4.6 Risks**

The external APIs used poses the most significant risk for Grate. APIs will be used to define core aspects of the models and the view of the project. That is, APIs will dictate the car entity in terms that can be used with many

physics equations, which is important for calculating the fitness function of the car. In the event that the chosen APIs cease to function as expected, then alternate arrangements will have to be made in order to complete the project.

## **4.7 Costs**

There will be no cost at all as all of the materials used will be free.

## **4.8 User Documentation and Training**

### **4.8.1 User Documentation Requirements**

The following documents will be created for Grate's Genetic Cars:

1. Problem Statement

This document will detail the scope and purpose of the project. It will be referred to by current and future developers of the project, as well as future, currently undetermined, stakeholders. The document will initially be created by all members of Grate; however, the responsibility of maintaining the document will rest with the team lead.

2. Development Plan

This document will detail the development process for the project. It will be referred to by the current developers of the project in order to prepare for upcoming milestones, as well as future developers who want to know the process of creating the initial project. This document will initially be created by all members of Grate; however, the responsibility of maintaining the document will rest with the team lead.

3. Requirements Specification

This document will detail the requirements for the project. It shall be a living document that evolves as the requirements change. It will be referenced by the current developers of the project. The document will be created by all members of Grate, and the responsibility of maintaining this document will lie with all members of Grate.

#### 4. Verification and Validation Plan

This document will detail the test cases used in order to validate the project. It will be used by testers of the project in order to increase confidence in the code. The document will be created by all members of Grate; however, the responsibility of maintaining the document will rest with the Quantitative Testing Expert.

#### 5. Design Specification Document

This document will document the internal workings of the code. It will be used by future developers who want to learn how the current system functions. The document will be created by all members of Grate, and the responsibility of maintaining this document will lie with all members of Grate.

#### 6. User Manual

The user manual will detail the operation procedures for Grate's Genetic Cars. It will explain to the users of Grate's Genetic Cars all of the different functions that Genetic Cars supports, as well as the role that different parameters play in the Genetic Algorithm. This document will be created by all members of Grate; however, the responsibility of maintaining the document will rest with the theory expert.

### 4.8.2 Training Requirements

No specific training beyond what is listed under assumptions will be required of the user.

## 4.9 Waiting Room

Requirement #: 29 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** Users shall be able to replay any previous generations.

**Rationale:** This requirement will allow users to compare the performance of cars between generations.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** The user can elect to see graphical output of a previous generation's cars.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 30 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** Users shall be able to skip to any future generation.

**Rationale:** This requirement will allow users to compare the performance of cars between generations.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** The user can elect to see graphical output of a future generation's cars.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Requirement #: 31 Requirement Type: Functional

**Description:** Users shall be able to seeds that generated the top *st* cars.

**Rationale:** This requirement will allow users to compare the performance of cars evolved from different starting points.

**Originator:** Kelvin Lin

**Fit Criterion:** The user can see a list of seeds that generated the top *st* cars.

**Supporting Materials:** JavaScript

**History:** Created October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## 4.10 Ideas for Solutions

Please refer to [the ideas for solutions](#).



## References

Nintendo. *Nintendo 3DS - Health and Safety Precautions*. Nintendo,  
[http://www.nintendo.com/consumer/info/en\\_na/docs.jsp?menu=3ds&submenu=ctr-doc-health-safety](http://www.nintendo.com/consumer/info/en_na/docs.jsp?menu=3ds&submenu=ctr-doc-health-safety), 2016.

Dr. Spencer Smith. *Test Plan*. Sfwr Eng 3XA3,  
<https://gitlab.cas.mcmaster.ca/smiths/se3xa3/blob/master/Lectures/05-TestPlan/05-TestPlan.pdf>, 2016.

## 5 Appendix

### 5.1 List of Figures

### 5.2 Symbolic Parameters

Symbol	Definition
$s$	The number of samples in a generation
$v$	The number of vectors in a car
$number\_of\_vertices$	The number of vertices formed by connecting vectors in a car model
$r$	The radius of a wheel
$min\_weight$	The minimum mass of a car
$max\_weight$	The maximum mass of a car
$max\_secs$	The maximum amount of time a car is allowed to stall in one spot
$n$	The number of car statistics to display
$mutation\_rate$	The rate at which genes mutate
$max\_cars\_per\_gen$	The maximum number of cars in a given generation
$st$	The top random seeds
$t$	The number of parents in a generation
$t\_max$	The maximum number of parents
$t\_min$	The minimum number of parents

Table 3: List of Figures