
Noting Much About Ado

Dr. Ana Nelson
dexy.it/ado

Integrating Development,
Documentation and Reporting

A Little About Me

- I'm a software developer (used to be an economist).
 - Became interested in software development and document automation while working on my thesis.
 - Lots of similarities between software documentation and scientific document automation.
 - Wrote my "dream tool" after I learned Python.
 - My twitter: @ananelson
-

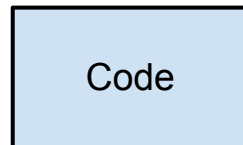
Dexy

- My dream tool.
 - Supports *any* programming language.
 - Lets you write any kind of document.
 - Automates your whole project.
 - <http://dexy.it>
 - @dexyit
-

Ado

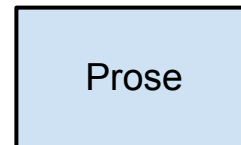
An experimental command-line TODO app which might be interesting (or is just a useful vehicle for talking about dexy).

Code & Prose



Code

Documentation



Prose

Tools:

version control
text editors
github

version control
text editors
github
word processors
wikis/CMSs/blogs

Tools for Documentation, i.e. Integrating Code and Prose

- Automated
 - Usually one of two approaches:
 - place the code in the prose (literate programming)
 - place the prose in the code (comments -> API docs)
 - Problems
 - inflexible
 - hard to re-use
 - Manual
 - well, yeah, manual.
-

Code is Code, Prose is Prose

- Code lives in Code Files
- Prose lives in Prose Files
- Tools mix them together

Benefits

- No editing or copy/pasting code in tools designed for formatted text.
 - All code is executable.
 - Can still do "code in prose" literate programming and "prose in code" automated API generation.
-

But wait!

Code

Documentation

Prose

Let's add "Data"

Code

Data

Prose

Data

- Data from an external API.
 - Code performance analysis data.
 - Website traffic data.
 - Support/helpdesk metrics.
 - Big Data
-

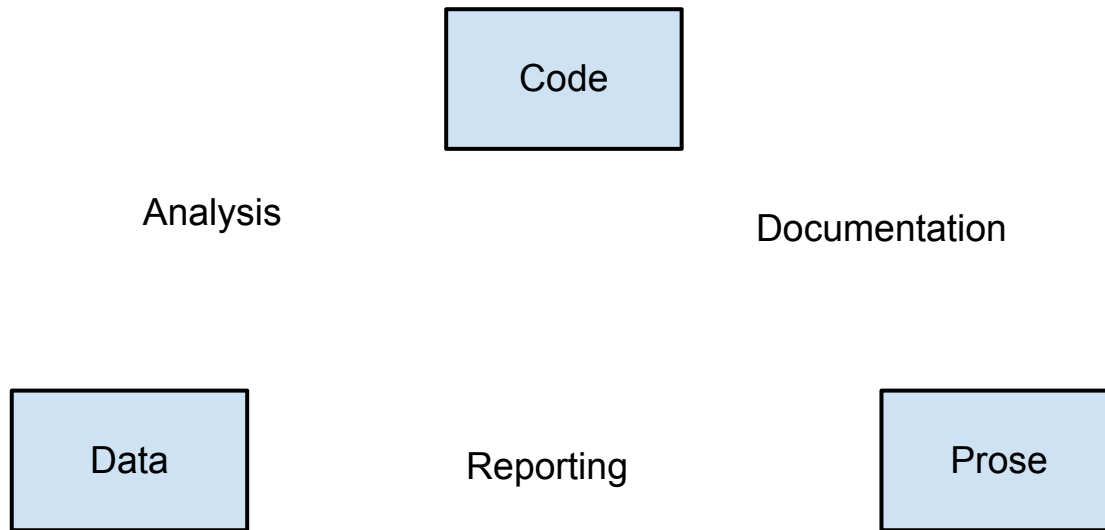
Let's add "Data"

Code

Data

Prose

Relationships



Or...

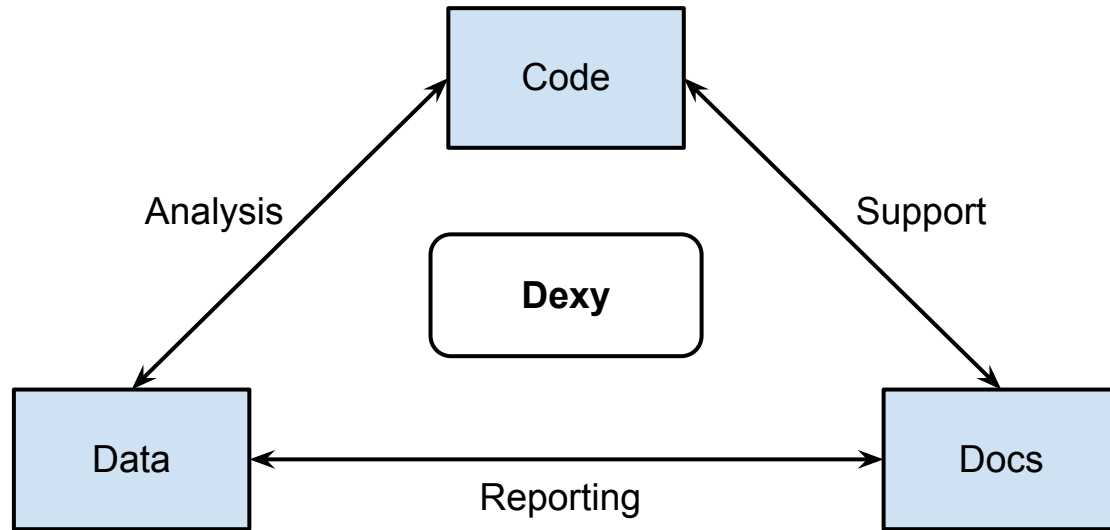
Inputs/Costs:

- Code
- Prose
- Data

Output/Added Value:

- Documentation
 - Reporting
 - Analysis
-

Code is Code, Prose is Prose, Data is Data



Dexy

A tool for automating the integration of code, prose and data.

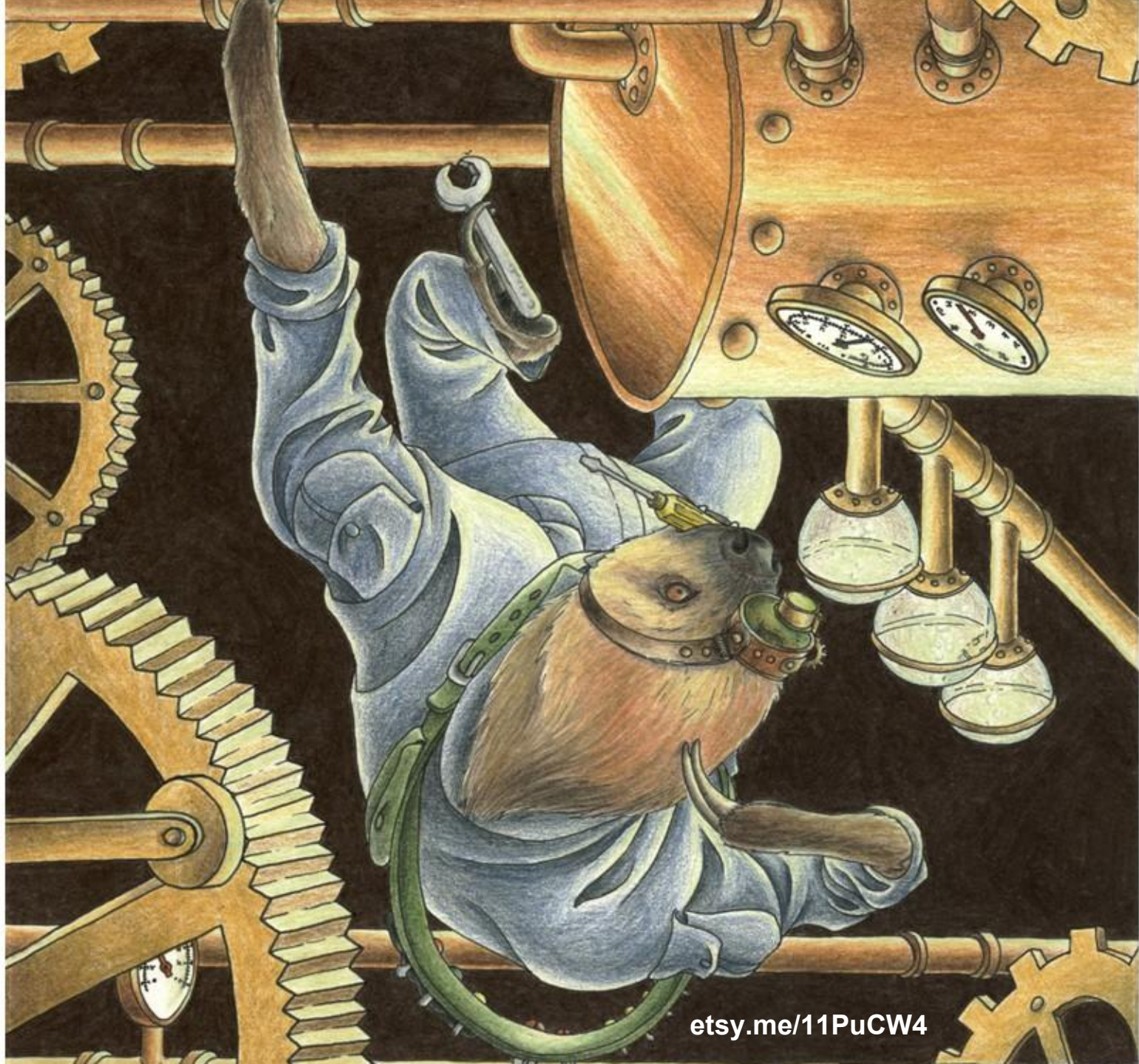
A tool for automating analysis, reporting and documentation.

Get the best of both worlds: the flexibility of the Manual approach with the maintainability of an Automated approach.

Dexy can:

- run code
 - insert code into documents
 - insert code output into documents
 - convert documents to/from different formats
 - run data analysis scripts
 - insert results and graphs into documents
 - run task automation scripts
 - interact with remote APIs
-

used with permission
<https://www.etsy.com/shop/RavenDove>



[etsy.me/11PuCW4](https://www.etsy.com/shop/RavenDove)

Example: Ado

- A demo/example to illustrate the intersection of code, prose and data.

Ado: Command Line ToDo Software

- I wanted a simple, local (not web-based) TODO app.
 - I wanted to leverage Dexy's templates and automation to be Ado's reporting system
 - So: I wrote a simple wrapper for a SQLite database, and a simple command line tool for inserting data.
 - Dexy does everything else.
-

Demo

dexy.it/ado
