

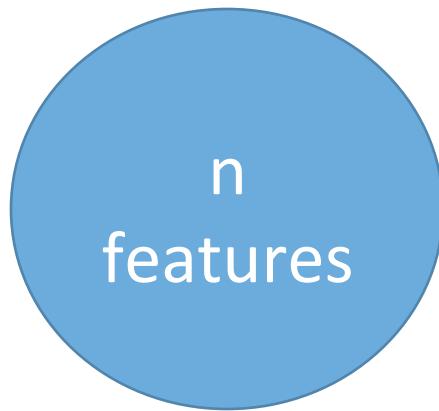
# Testing Web Services with QuickCheck

Thomas Arts

# Why is testing hard?

---

Q ...



3–4 tests per  
feature

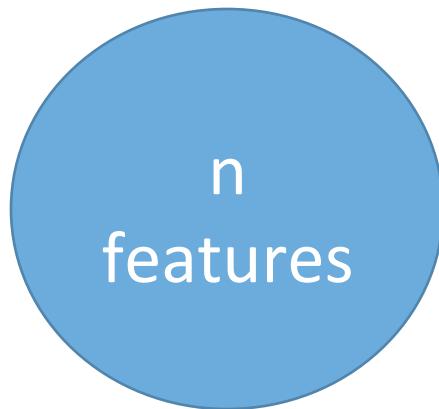
$O(n)$  test cases



# Why is testing hard?

---

Q ...



pairs of features

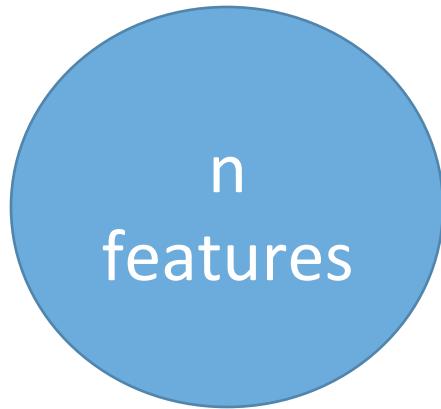
$O(n^2)$  test cases



# Why is testing hard?

---

Q ...



$O(n^3)$  test cases

triples of features



Don't write tests!

Generate them

# Specify properties

---



Specify a property of your software:

QuickCheck automatically generates random test cases to verify the property.

```
defmodule StringTests do
  use ExUnit.Case
  use EQC.ExUnit

  property "Strings starting" do
    forall {s1, s2} <- {utf8(), utf8()} do
      String.starts_with?(s1 <> s2, s1)
    end
  end

end
```

---

# Running QuickCheck

---



Add :eqc\_ex to your project

```
> mix eqc.install --mini  
> mix eqc test/string_eqc.ex
```

```
.....  
.....
```

OK, passed 100 tests

.

Finished in 1.0 seconds

1 property, 0 failures

# Properties

---



```
property "reverse strings" do
  forall s <- Type.string() do
    ensure String.reverse(String.reverse(s)) == s
  end
end
```

# QuickCheck



```
.....Failed! After 60 tests.  
not ensured: "抒ſWſ)ö" == "ſſ抒Wſ)ö"  
Shrinking xx.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx..xxxxxxxx....xxxxxxxxxxxx  
xxxxxxxx(8 times)  
not ensured: " ſ " == "ſ " 
```

```
1) property reverse strings (SimpleTests)
  test/simple_eqc.exs:10
    forall(s <- Type.string()) do
      ensure(String.reverse(String.reverse(s)) == s)
    end
    Failed for "  "
```

Finished in 1.0 seconds  
1 property, 1 failure

# Property Based Testing

---

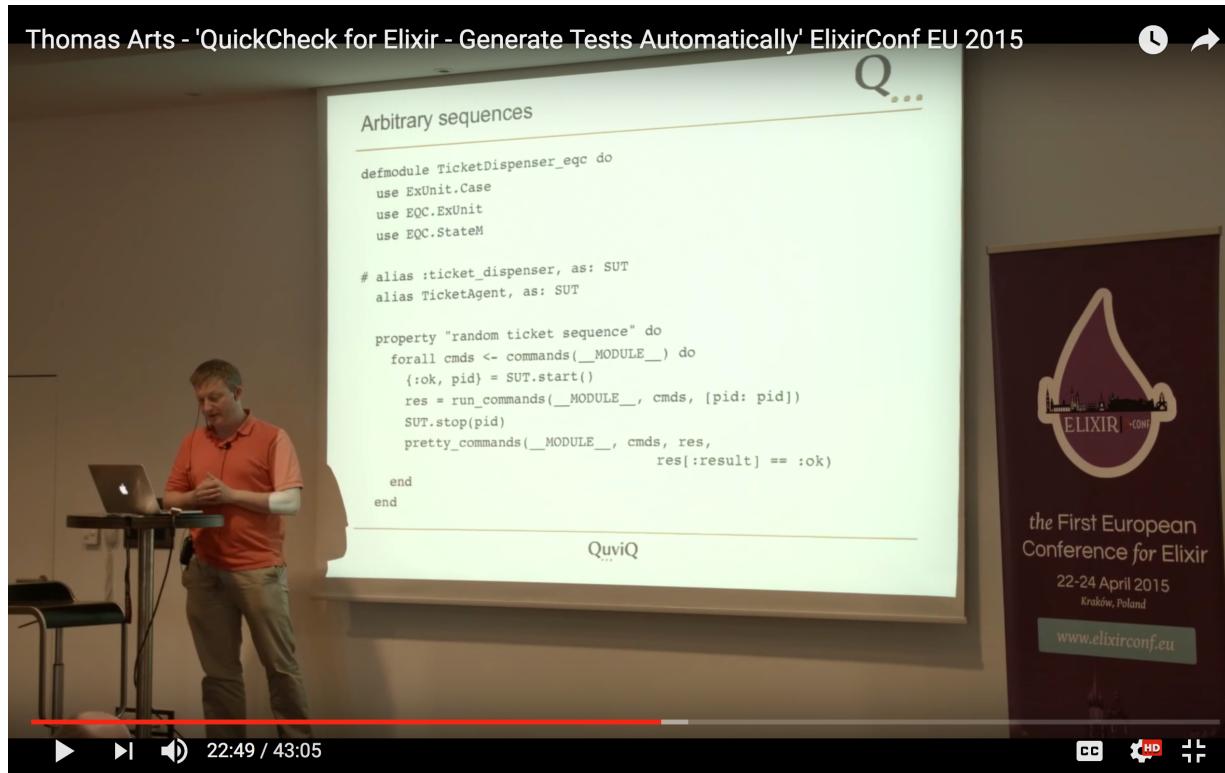


Use specifications  
(properties)

Generate tests from specifications

# What about real systems?

Q ...



# Quviq



3,000 pages of specifications

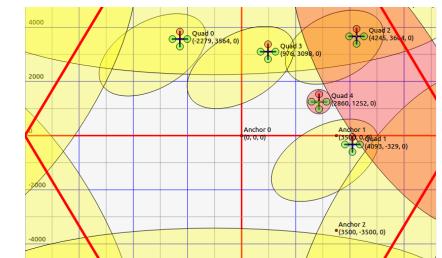
20,000 lines of QuickCheck

1,000,000 LOC, 6 suppliers

200 problems

100 problems in the standard

10x shorter test code



ejabberd

# JSON schema

---



use JSON schema to define data generators:

```
{  
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-04/schema#",  
  "type": "object",  
  "properties": {  
    "currency": {  
      "type": "string",  
      "enum": [ "EUR", "USD", "SEK" ]  
    },  
    "amount": {  
      "type": "number",  
      "minimum": 0  
    }  
  },  
  "required": [ "currency", "amount" ]  
}
```

---

# JSON schema generators



```
setup do
  module = SchemaGen.from_file("valuta.json")
  [ generator: module.generate() ]
end
```

```
property "Currency positive", %{generator: currency} do
  forall %{ "amount" => v1 } <- currency do
    ensure v1 >= 0
  end
end
```

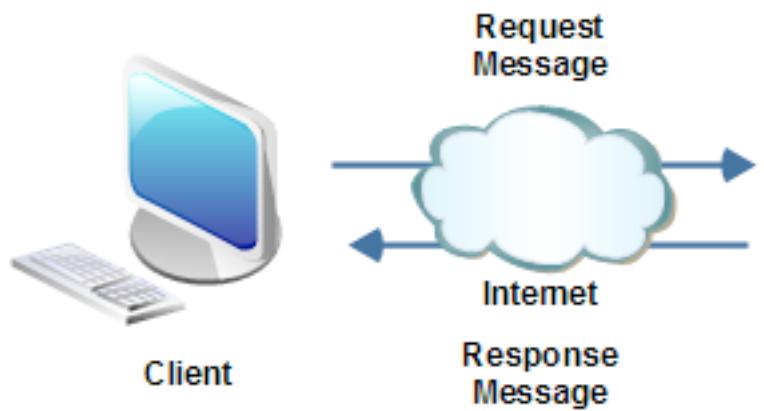
```
.....
OK, passed 100 tests
.
```

```
Finished in 1.5 seconds
1 property, 0 failures
```

```
"{\"currency\":\"USD\", \"amount\":854}"
"{\"currency\":\"USD\", \"amount\":75529}"
"{\"currency\":\"USD\", \"amount\":48}"
"{\"currency\":\"USD\", \"amount\":14917.0}"
"{\"currency\":\"SEK\", \"amount\":942}"
"{\"currency\":\"SEK\", \"amount\":649.0}"
"{\"currency\":\"SEK\", \"amount\":19.857142857142}"
"{\"currency\":\"EUR\", \"amount\":71.0}"
"{\"currency\":\"EUR\", \"amount\":159}"
"{\"currency\":\"EUR\", \"amount\":1.0}"
.....
```

# Test a currency web service!

Q ...



JSON API

The screenshot shows the XE Currency Converter homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like Home, Tools, Transfer Money, Currency Data, Use our Content, Apps, Learn, and Blog. Below the navigation, a banner says "The World's Trusted Currency Authority". The main content area displays "XE Currency Converter: USD to EUR" with the result "12.70 USD = 11.6558 EUR". It also shows exchange rates: "1 USD - 0.917777 EUR" and "1 EUR - 1.08959 USD". A note says "Live mid-market rate 2017-04-30 09:07 UTC". There are social sharing icons (Twitter, Facebook, Email, etc.) and a "Set up a Rate Alert" button. Below the result, there are dropdown menus for "12.70", "USD - US Dollar", "EUR - Euro", and a large blue "→" button. To the right, there are sections for "USD - US Dollar" and "EUR - Euro", each with a brief description and a "More [currency] info" link.

Web Service

# JSON schema for return value



```
{  
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-04/schema#",  
  "type": "object",  
  "properties": {  
    "from": { "type": "string",  
              "enum": [ "EUR", "USD", "SEK" ]  
            },  
    "to": { "type": "string",  
            "enum": [ "EUR", "USD" ]  
          },  
    "amount": { "type": "number",  
                "minimum": 0  
              },  
    "time": { "type": "string" }  
  },  
  "required": [ "from", "to", "amount" ]  
}
```

introduce an  
error!

# Type correctness



```
setup_all do
  module = SchemaGen.from_file("valuta.json")
  resp   = SchemaGen.from_file("currency_api.json")
  [ generator: module.generate(),
    valid: fn(x) -> resp.validate(x) end ]
end

property "exchange", %{generator: currency, valid: validate} do
  forall %{ "currency" => curl, "amount" => v1 } <- currency do
    forall %{ "currency" => cur2 } <- currency do

      return = convert(curl, cur2, v1)
      ensure validate.(return) == :ok
    end
  end
end
```

performs the  
web service call

# Found the type error!



```
Request get http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert
query: %{"Amount" => 1.0, "From" => "USD", "To" => "EUR"}
...

Request get http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert
query: %{"Amount" => 0.5, "From" => "SEK", "To" => "SEK"}
Failed! After 11 tests.
not ensured: {:error, [{"Value \"SEK\" is not allowed in enum.", "#/to"}]} == :ok

Shrinking .
Request get http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert
query: %{"Amount" => 0.0, "From" => "EUR", "To" => "SEK"}

not ensured: {:error, [{"Value \"SEK\" is not allowed in enum.", "#/to"}]} == :ok

1) property exchange (TypeTests)
  test/type_eqc.exs:23
    forall(%{"currency" => curl, "amount" => v1} <- currency) do
      forall(%{"currency" => cur2} <- currency) do
        return = convert(curl, cur2, v1)
        ensure(validate.(return) == :ok)
      end
    end
    Failed for %{"amount" => 0.0, "currency" => "EUR"}
      %{"amount" => 0.0, "currency" => "SEK"}
```

# JSON schema for return value



```
{  
    "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-04/schema#",  
    "type": "object",  
    "properties": {  
        "from": { "type": "string",  
                  "enum": [ "EUR", "USD", "SEK" ]  
                },  
        "to": { "type": "string",  
                  "enum": [ "EUR", "USD", "SEK" ]  
                },  
        "amount": { "type": "number",  
                   "minimum": 0  
                 },  
        "time": { "type": "string" }  
    },  
    "required": [ "from", "to", "amount" ]  
}
```

fix the  
specification!

# Type specification tested

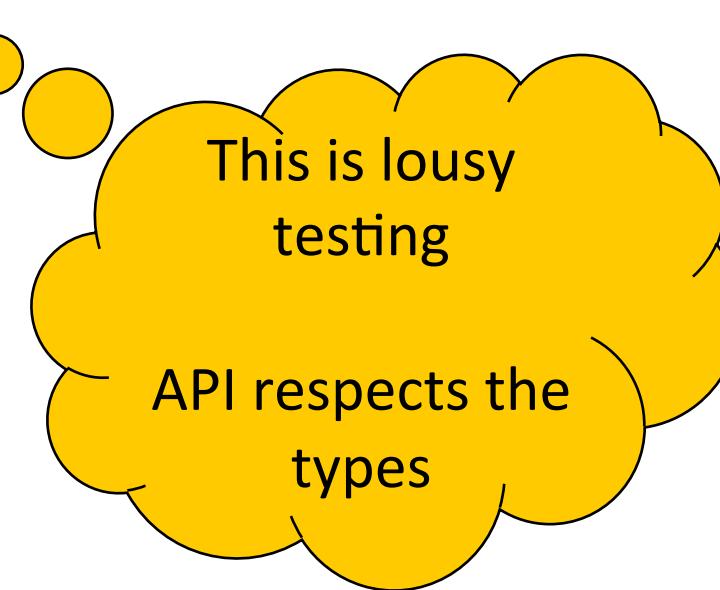
---

Q  
...

.....  
.....  
OK, passed 100 tests

.

Finished in 46.1 seconds  
1 property, 0 failures



# Test a currency web service!



```
property "exchange", %{generator: currency} do
  forall %{ "currency" => curl1, "amount" => v1 } <- currency do
    forall %{ "currency" => cur2 } <- currency do
      %{ "amount" => v2} = convert(curl1, cur2, v1)
      %{ "amount" => v} = convert(cur2, curl1, v2)
    ensure v == v1
  end
end
end
```

The function `convert` queries the web service

and probably also  
check:

`from1 == curl1 &&`  
`to1 == cur2`

more than type  
checking!

# Zero is not allowed?



```
Request get http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert
  query: %{"Amount" => 0.0, "From" => "USD", "To" => "EUR"}
Request get http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert
  query: %{"Amount" => 0.918685, "From" => "EUR", "To" =>
"USD"}
Failed! After 1 tests.
not ensured: 1.0 == 0.0
```

Shrinking .(1 times)

```
Request get http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert
  query: %{"Amount" => 0.0, "From" => "EUR", "To" => "EUR"}
Request get http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert
  query: %{"Amount" => 1.0, "From" => "EUR", "To" => "EUR"}
not ensured: 1.0 == 0.0
```

# Zero is not allowed!

Q ...

XE Currency Converter: USD to EUR

1 USD = **0.918564** EUR

US Dollar ↔ Euro  
1 USD = 0.918564 EUR      1 EUR = 1.08866 USD

Live mid-market rate 2017-04-28 07:52 UTC



[Set up a Rate Alert](#)

1	USD - US Dollar	↔	EUR - Euro	→
---	-----------------	---	------------	---

if you put a zero there...  
it's replaced by 1

# Only allow values > 0

---



```
{  
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-04/schema#",  
  "type": "object",  
  "properties": {  
    "currency": {  
      "type": "string",  
      "enum": [ "EUR", "USD", "SEK" ]  
    },  
    "amount": {  
      "type": "number",  
      "minimum": 0,  
      "exclusiveMinimum": true  
    }  
  "required": [ "currency", "amount" ]  
}
```

---

# Zero is not allowed?



....

```
not ensured: 1.0 == 1.0e-9
```

```
1) property exchange (ValutaTests)
  test/valuta_eqc.exs:60
  forall
    ...
  end
  Failed for %{"amount" => 1.0e-9, "currency" => "USD"} ,
  %{"amount" => 1.0e-9, "currency" => "EUR"}
```

Precision seems  
10<sup>-9</sup> but need  
different  
currencies

# Only allow values > 0



```
{  
  "$schema": "http://json-schema.org/draft-04/schema#",  
  "type": "object",  
  "properties": {  
    "currency": {  
      "type": "string",  
      "enum": [ "EUR", "USD", "SEK" ]  
    },  
    "amount": {  
      "type": "number",  
      "minimum": 1  
    }  
  },  
  "required": [ "currency", "amount" ]  
}
```

Ok, more than 1

# Precision or real time data?



```
Request get http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert  
query:  {"Amount" => 1.0, "From" => "USD", "To" => "EUR"}  
Request get http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert  
query:  {"Amount" => 0.917897, "From" => "EUR", "To" =>  
"USD"}  
Failed! After 2 tests.  
not ensured: 1.00006 == 1.0
```



# Run the same check again



```
@check usd1: [ %{ "amount" => 1.0, "currency" => "USD" } ,  
                 %{ "currency" => "EUR" } ]  
  
property "exchange", %{generator: currency} do  
  forall %{ "currency" => cur1, "amount" => v1 } <- currency do  
    forall %{ "currency" => cur2 } <- currency do  
      %{ "amount" => v2 } = convert(cur1, cur2, v1)  
      %{ "amount" => v } = convert(cur2, cur1, v2)  
      ensure v == v1  
    end  
  end  
end  
  
mix eqc --only check
```



- OK, passed the test.
- not ensured:  $1.00013 == 1.0$

# Show the time



```
property "exchange", %{generator: currency} do
  forall %{ "currency" => curl, "amount" => v1 } <- currency do
    forall %{ "currency" => cur2 } <- currency do
      %{ "amount" => v2, "time" => t1} = convert(curl, cur2, v1)
      %{ "amount" => v, "time" => t2} = convert(cur2, curl, v2)
      when_fail IO.puts "at time #{t1} and #{t2}" do
        ensure v == v1
      end
    end
  end
end
```

Failed!

at time 2017-04-28 08:53 UTC and 2017-04-28 08:54 UTC  
not ensured: 0.999975 == 1.0

Idea: ONLY  
check when  
time stamp  
equal

# Skip if time not the same



```
property "exchange", %{generator: currency} do
  forall %{ "currency" => curl1, "amount" => v1 } <- currency do
    forall %{ "currency" => cur2 } <- currency do
      %{ "amount" => v2, "time" => t1} = convert(curl1, cur2, v1)
      %{ "amount" => v,   "time" => t2} = convert(cur2, curl1, v2)
      when_fail IO.puts "at time #{t1} and #{t2}" do
        implies t1 == t2 do
          ensure v == v1
        end
      end
    end
  end
end
```

# Show the time

---



```
at time 2017-04-28 09:10 UTC and 2017-04-28 09:10 UTC  
not ensured: 0.999999 == 1.0
```

```
at time 2017-04-28 09:13 UTC and 2017-04-28 09:13 UTC  
not ensured: 1.3333333333333 == 1.333333333333333
```

```
at time 2017-04-28 09:33 UTC and 2017-04-28 09:33 UTC  
not ensured: 0.999996 == 1.0
```

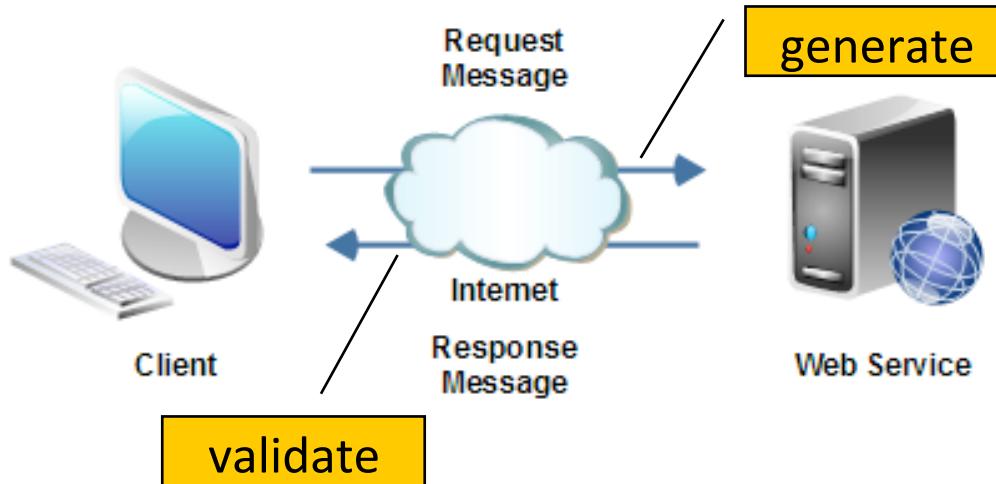


# Web service testing

---

Q ...

- Specify data in JSON Schema
- Generate tests for arbitrary (shrinking) data
- Use Elixir / QuickCheck to execute tests



# Web service testing

---



But... arbitrary data can be too "arbitrary"

After JSON schema, there quickly is demand for more precise specifications.

QuickCheck = Domain Specific Language  
for defining random data

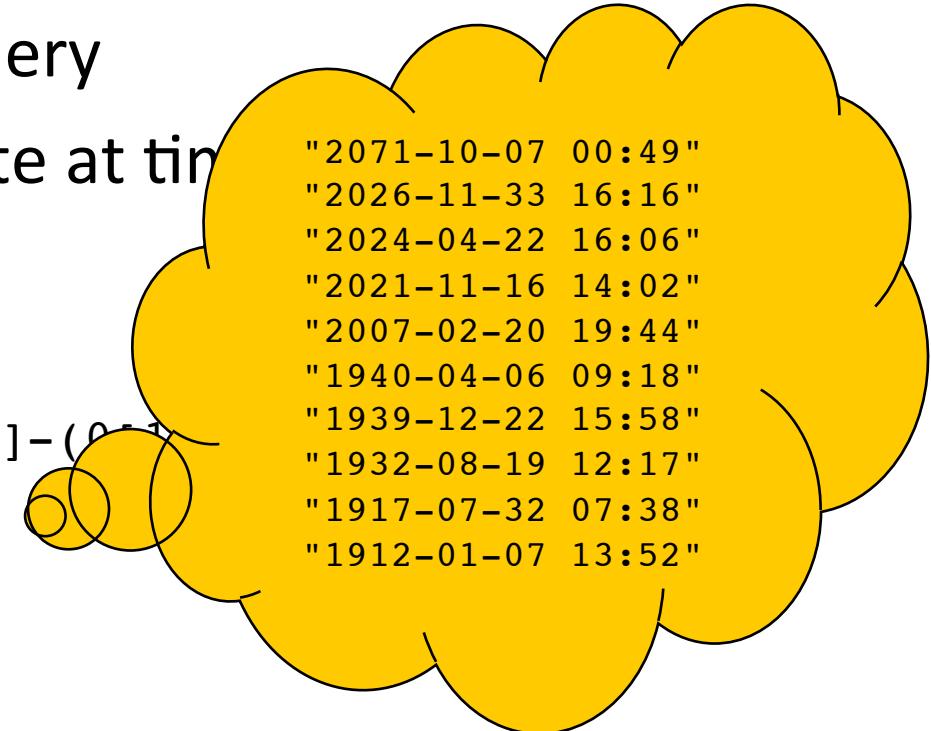
# Currency at a given time

Q ...

Add a timestamp to the query

"What is the exchange rate at time"

```
"type": "string",  
"pattern": "(19|20)[0-9][0-9]-(0[1-9]|1[0-2])[0-5][0-9]"
```



SEK to USD in 1980 makes sense

SEK to EUR in 1980 makes NO sense

Dependencies  
hard to encode  
in JSON schema

# Combine JSON and QuickCheck



```
property "currency at time T", %{generator: currency} do
  forall cur <- currency do
    forall t <- timestamp(cur) do
      ....
    end
  end
end
```

# Combine JSON and QuickCheck



```
def date("EUR") do
  Type.Date.generate([start_date: ~D[1999-01-01],
                      end_date: ~D[2017-05-04] ])
end

def date(_) do
  Type.Date.generate([start_date: ~D[1980-01-01],
                      end_date: ~D[2017-05-04] ])
end

property "currency at time T", %{generator: currency} do
  forall cur <- currency do
    forall {d, t} <- {date(cur["currency"]), Type.Time.generate()} do
      {hm, _} = t |> Time.to_string |> String.split_at(5)
      timestamp = Date.to_string(d) <> " " <> hm
      .....
    end
  end
end
```

# Conclusion

---



JSON schema, QuickCheck and Elixir powerful trio

Elixir good way in for testing web services

people like it!