User Documentation: Stock and Flow Modeling Tool

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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

Welcome to the User Documentation for the Stock and Flow Modeling Tool! Our tool is designed to assist you in creating and analyzing stock and flow models, enabling you to visualize and comprehend complex systems. By using this tool, you can gain insights into dynamic processes, simulate scenarios, and make informed decisions.

1.2 System Requirements

Before getting started, ensure that your system meets the following requirements:

- Operating System:Windows 10, macOS Big Sur, Ubuntu 20.04 LTS, or any compatible modern operating system.

- Browser: Google Chrome (latest version), Mozilla Firefox (latest version), Microsoft Edge (latest version), or any compatible modern web browser.

- RAM: Minimum 8 GB of RAM for optimal performance.

- Disk Space: At least 400 MB of free disk space for the application installation and storage of project files and data.

2. User Interface

2.0 Overview

The user interface of the Stock and Flow Modeling Tool consists of several sections:

- Side Column: Contains the element library and property editing section.

- Canvas Section: Provides the workspace for creating stock and flow models.

- Menubar: Offers options for importing, exporting, and customizing the tool.

- Control Panel: Includes controls for zooming, panning, and locking the canvas.

- Minimap: Provides an overview of the entire canvas for easy navigation.

2.1 Add units

To add units to your model, follow these steps:

1. In the menubar,Click on the Add unit Button.

2. Then type the units which you want then click on Add.

3.Then click cancel to exit through it.

2.2 Adding Elements

To add elements to your model, follow these steps:

1. In the side column, locate the desired element in the element library.

2. Click on the element icon or drag it onto the canvas.

3. Pop is generated in the Add element itself to initialize its properties.

2.3 Editing Properties

To modify the properties of an element, perform the following steps:

1. Click on the desired element in the canvas.

2. A pop-up window or sidebar property panel will appear, displaying the properties of the selected element.

3. Edit the properties, such as value,unit, as required.

4. Save the changes to update the element's properties.

2.4 Canvas Controls

The canvas provides controls for zooming, panning, and customizing the background. Follow these instructions to use the canvas controls effectively:

1. Zooming: Use the zoom controls to adjust the view of the canvas. Zoom in to focus on specific details, or zoom out for a broader view.

2. Panning: Click and drag on the canvas to pan and navigate to different areas of the model.

2.5 Importing and Exporting Models

To import or export models in the Stock and Flow Modeling Tool, follow these steps:

1. Importing: Click on the load file button in the menu bar and choose the model file in JSON format. The model will be loaded into the tool for further editing.

2. Exporting:(On Hover Export Button)

a) Click on the export as json button in the menu bar and select the desired format (JSON) to save your model. This allows for easy sharing and collaboration with others  
b)Click on the export as PNG button in the menu bar and select the desired format PNG to save your model. This allows for easy image based sharing with others

2.6 Menu bar other functionalities

1.Clear : Click on the clear button in the menu bar to clear all elements of the model in the canvas section and restart for origin.

2.Dark/Light : Click on the Dark/light button in the menubar to change the theme alternatively

3. Background Customization: Click on the variants button in the menu bar to customize the background variant of the canvas by selecting different patterns.

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3. Working with Models

3.1 Navigating the Canvas

The canvas offers navigation features to help you move around larger models. Follow these instructions to navigate the canvas effectively:

1. Minimap: Use the minimap to get an overview of the entire canvas and quickly navigate to different areas of the model.

2. Control Panel: Utilize the zoom controls, fit-to-view functionality, and canvas lock to adjust the canvas view according to your needs.

3. Select particular elements and Move them : Click on the right mouse button select the all elements you want to move together and move them.

4. Drag Background : Click on the left mouse button and drag the background.

3.2 Loading Models

To load your models in the Stock and Flow Modeling Tool, follow this step:

1. Loading: Click on the load button in the menubar and select the saved model file. The model will be loaded into the tool for further editing.

4. Advanced Features

4.1 Help and Documentation

Access the built-in help resources, user guides, and tutorials within the tool to get assistance and learn more about its features and functionalities. Contextual help and tooltips may also be available to guide you in using different aspects of the tool.

5. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Refer to the FAQ section for answers to common questions and troubleshooting guidance for any issues you may encounter while using the Stock and Flow Modeling Tool.

We hope this User Documentation provides you with the necessary guidance to effectively utilize the Stock and Flow Modeling Tool. If you have any further questions or need additional assistance, please refer to the provided help resources or contact our support team.

Happy modeling and analyzing!