User Documentation: Stock and Flow Modeling Tool

Table of Contents:

1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

1.2 System Requirements

2. Getting Started

2.1 Installation

2.2 Launching the Application

3. User Interface

3.1 Overview

3.2 Adding Elements

3.3 Editing Properties

3.4 Canvas Controls

3.5 Importing and Exporting Models

4. Working with Models

4.1 Creating a New Model

4.2 Navigating the Canvas

4.3 Saving and Loading Models

4.4 Model Validation

4.5 Collaborative Features

5. Advanced Features

5.1 Data Integration

5.2 Report Generation

5.3 Help and Documentation

6. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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: [Specify compatible operating systems]

- Browser: [Specify compatible browsers]

- RAM: [Specify minimum required RAM]

- Disk Space: [Specify minimum required disk space]

2. Getting Started

2.1 Installation

To install the Stock and Flow Modeling Tool, follow these steps:

1. [Step 1]

2. [Step 2]

3. [Step 3]

4. [Step 4]

2.2 Launching the Application

Once the installation is complete, launch the Stock and Flow Modeling Tool by following these steps:

1. [Step 1]

2. [Step 2]

3. [Step 3]

3. User Interface

3.1 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.

3.2 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 and drag it onto the canvas.

3. Release the mouse button to drop the element onto the canvas.

3.3 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 panel will appear, displaying the properties of the selected element.

3. Edit the properties, such as name, value, type, and appearance, as required.

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

3.4 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.

3. Background Customization: Customize the background variant of the canvas by selecting different colors or patterns.

3.5 Importing and Exporting Models

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

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

2. Exporting: Click on the export button in the menubar and select the desired format (JSON) to save your model. This allows for easy sharing and collaboration with others.

4. Working with Models

4.1 Creating a New Model

To create a new stock and flow model, follow these steps:

1. [Step 1]

2. [Step 2]

3. [Step 3]

4.2 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.

4.3 Saving and Loading Models

To save and load your models in the Stock and Flow Modeling Tool, follow these steps:

1. Saving: Click on the save button in the menubar and provide a name for your model. The model will be saved for future access.

2. 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.

4.4 Model Validation

The Stock and Flow Modeling Tool includes error handling and validation to ensure the accuracy and integrity of your models. The tool will identify and notify you of any errors or inconsistencies in your model. Follow the provided suggestions or guidance to rectify and resolve these issues.

4.5 Collaborative Features

The tool offers collaborative features to support sharing and collaboration among users. You can share your models with others, leave comments or annotations on specific elements, and track changes made by different team members.

5. Advanced Features

5.1 Data Integration

The Stock and Flow Modeling Tool provides data integration capabilities, allowing you to import data from external sources or APIs. This feature enables you to incorporate real-time or historical data into your models for more accurate analysis and simulations.

5.2 Report Generation

Generate reports based on your stock and flow models to communicate your findings effectively. Customize the content and format of the report, select specific elements or variables to include, and export it in a desired format (e.g., PDF, CSV).

5.3 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.

6. 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!