

# Spreadsheet Engineering

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# Agenda

- I. Motivation
- II. Spreadsheets Meet Models
- III. Models for Spreadsheets – ClassSheets
- IV. Inferring ClassSheets
- V. Embedding ClassSheets
- VI. Evolution!
- VII. Model-Driven Spreadsheets
- VIII. Summary

# I. Motivation



# Why do Spreadsheets matter?

Financial intelligence firm CODA reports that 95% of all U.S. firms use spreadsheets for financial reporting.

# Why do Spreadsheets matter?

They are the programming language of choice by non-professional programmers, a.k.a. *end users*.

In the U.S. alone, the number of end-user programmers is conservatively estimated at 11 million, compared to only 2.75 million other, professional programmers.

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*Estimating the numbers of end users and end-user programmers,*  
Christopher Scaffidi, Mary Shaw, and Brad Myers, VL/HCC 2005

**Omnipresent**  
**Easy-to-use**  
**Multi-purpose**  
**Flexible**

# Why do Spreadsheets matter?

In 2004, RevenueRecognition.com (now Softtrax) had the International Data Corporation interview 118 business leaders.

IDC found that 85% were using spreadsheets in financial reporting and forecasting.



# In fact, spreadsheets lack:

- Abstraction
- Encapsulation
- Type system
- Testing
- IDE
- ...

# And the consequences may be...

*Around 200 people who thought their only experience of the London 2012 Olympic Games would be minor heats of synchronised swimming have received an unexpected upgrade to the men's 100m final following an embarrassing ticketing mistake.*

*...*  
*Locog said the error occurred in the summer, between the first and second round of ticket sales, when a member of staff made a single **keystroke mistake and entered '20,000' into a spreadsheet rather than the correct figure of 10,000** remaining tickets.*

The Telegraph, 04 January 2012



The Telegraph Monday 15 July 2013

## LONDON2012

HOME PARALYMPICS SCHEDULE MEDALS SPORT GUIDES PICTURE GALLERIES VENUES GO

HOT TOPICS: Paralympic magic moments | Paralympic medal map | Classifications explained | 50 best images

### London 2012 Olympics: lucky few to get 100m final tickets after synchronised swimming was overbooked by 10,000

Around 200 people who thought their only experience of the London 2012 Olympic Games would be minor heats of synchronised swimming have received an unexpected upgrade to the men's 100m final following an embarrassing ticketing mistake.



# And the consequences may be...

The Economist  
World politics | Business & finance | Economics | Science & technology | Culture

## Free exchange

Economics

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### Debt and growth

## Revisiting Reinhart-Rogoff

Apr 17th 2013, 20:53 by R.A. | WASHINGTON

THIS week's Free exchange column discusses the week's hot macroeconomic controversy:

“ In a 2010 paper\* Carmen Reinhart, now a professor at Harvard Kennedy School, and Kenneth Rogoff, an economist at Harvard University...argued that GDP growth slows to a snail's pace once government-debt levels exceed 90% of GDP. The 90% figure quickly became ammunition in political arguments over austerity...[T]his week a new piece of research poured fuel on the fire by calling the 90% finding into question..”

*In a 2010 paper\* Carmen Reinhart, now a professor at Harvard Kennedy School, and Kenneth Rogoff, an economist at Harvard University...argued that GDP growth slows to a snail's pace once government-debt levels exceed 90% of GDP. The 90% figure quickly became ammunition in political arguments over austerity... This week a new piece of research poured fuel on the fire by calling the 90% finding into question..*

**Economy losses of \$10 billion/year!**

The Economist, 17 April 2013

*Harvard University economists Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff have acknowledged making a spreadsheet calculation mistake in a 2010 research paper, “Growth in a Time of Debt”, which has been widely cited to justify budget-cutting.*

Business Week, 18 April 2013

Bloomberg Businessweek  
Global Economics

Global Economics | Companies & Industries | Politics & Policy | Technology | Markets & Finance | Innovation & Design | Lifestyle

## Debt

### FAQ: Reinhart, Rogoff, and the Excel Error That Changed History

By Peter Coy | April 18, 2013

Harvard University economists Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff have acknowledged making a spreadsheet calculation mistake in a 2010 research paper, “Growth in a Time of Debt” (PDF), which has been widely cited to justify budget-cutting. But the authors stand by their conclusion that higher government debt is associated with slower economic growth. Here's what you need to know:

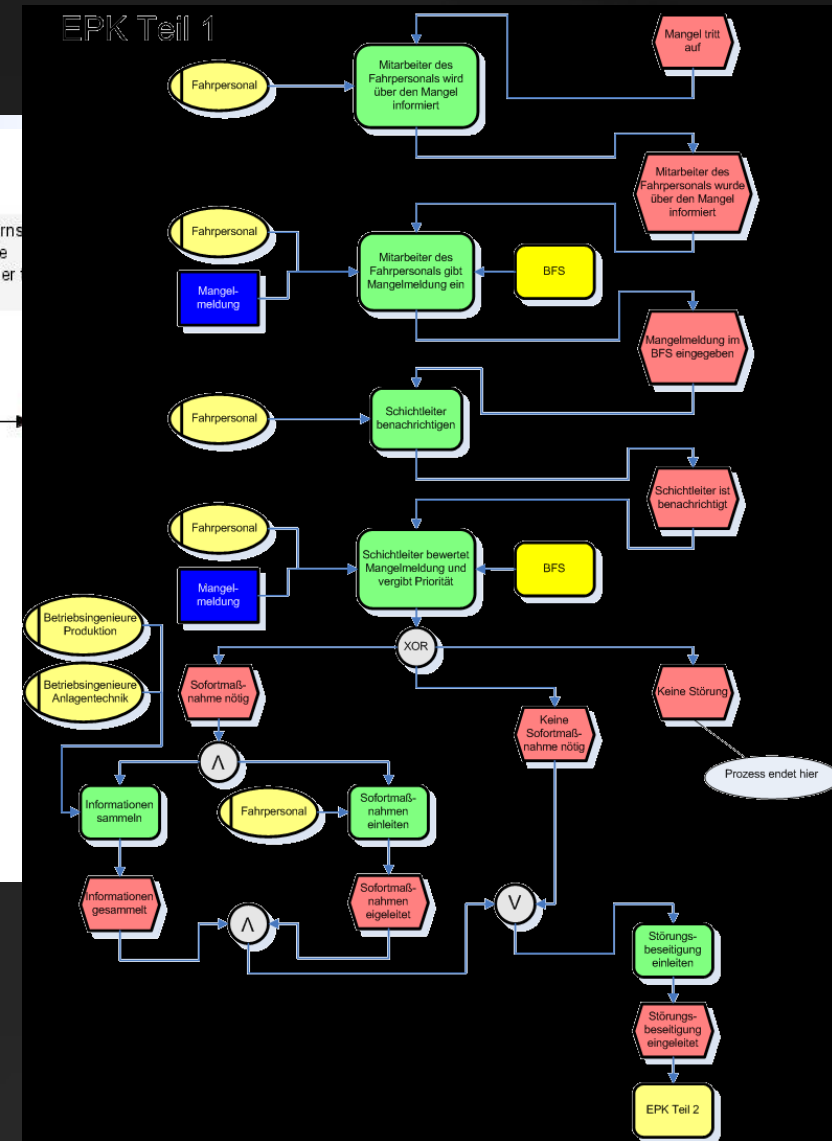
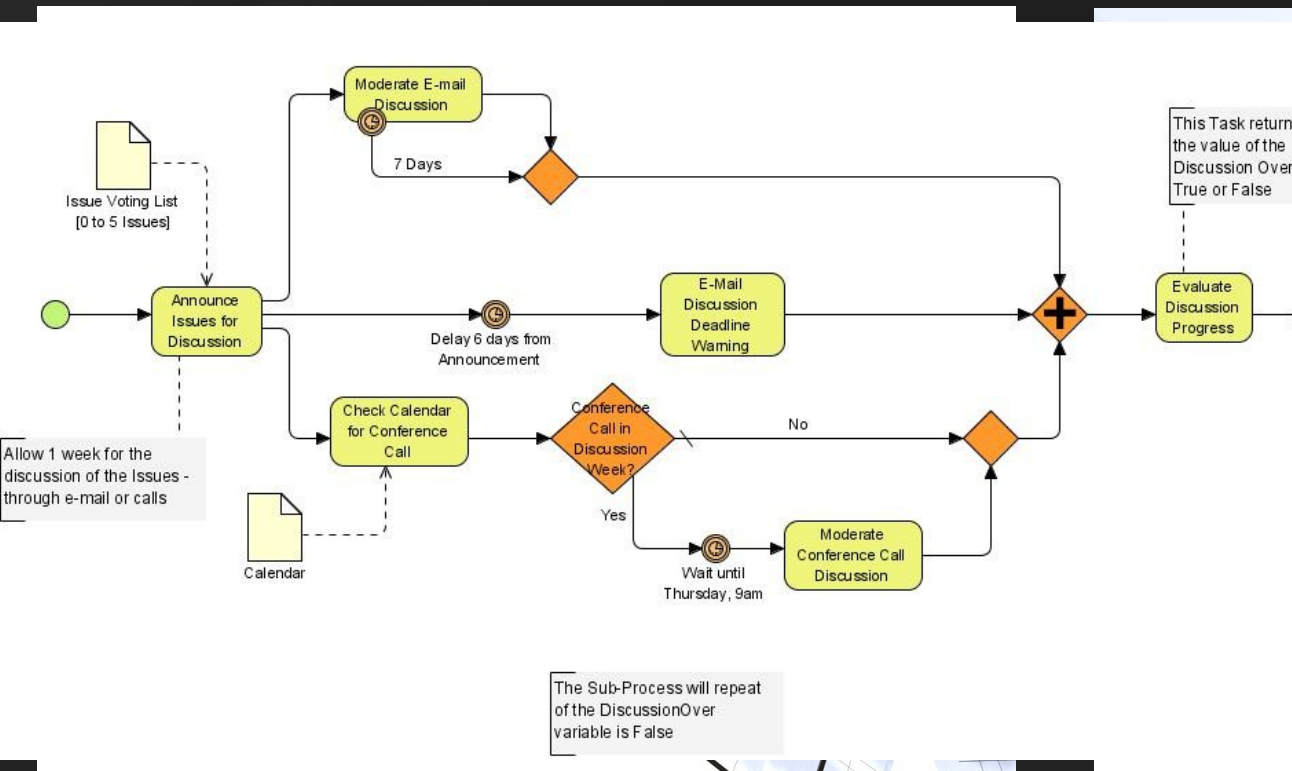
#### How big is this mistake?

Reinhart and Rogoff wrote in their 2010 paper that average annual growth was negative 0.1 percent in countries with episodes of gross government debt equal to 90 percent or more

## II. Spreadsheets Meet Models

[PEPM'09, VL/HCC'10]

# Why Models?





# Spreadsheet Example

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Pilot-Id	Pilot-Name	Phone	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours	N-Number	Model	Plane-Name
2	pl1	John	321654987	OPO	NAT	12/12/2010 – 14:00	07:00	N2342	B 747	Magalhães
3	pl2	Mike	147258369	OPO	NAT	01/01/2011 – 16:00	07:00	N2342	B 747	Magalhães
4	pl1	John	321654987	LIS	AMS	16/12/2010 – 10:00	02:45	N341	B 777	Cabral
5	pl3	John	469184201	OPO	CLJ	13/07/2013 – 10:00	05:45	N101	A 380	DSL
6										

# Functional Dependency?



	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>
1	a1	b1
2	a1	b1



	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>
1	a1	b1
2	a1	b2

# Functional Dependencies

- We compute the business logic from the data, by inferring FDs
- They are the building blocks inferring models for (legacy) spreadsheets
- The better the FDs we infer, the better the model we compute!



# Too Many??

["A"] -> ["B", "C", "D", "E", "F"]

["C"] -> ["A", "B", "D", "E", "F"]

["D"] -> ["A", "B", "C", "E", "F"]

["E"] -> ["A", "B", "C", "D", "F"]

["F"] -> ["A", "B", "C", "D", "E"]

["G"] -> ["H", "I", "J"]

["H"] -> ["G", "I", "J"]

["I"] -> ["G", "H", "J"]

["J"] -> ["G", "H", "I"]

["K"] -> ["L", "M"]

["L"] -> ["K", "M"]

["M"] -> ["K", "L"]

["B", "K"] -> ["A", "C", "D", "E", "F"]

["B", "L"] -> ["A", "C", "D", "E", "F"]

["B", "M"] -> ["A", "C", "D", "E", "F"]

# Accidents happen

- We use a data mining algorithm which produces to many accidental FDs!
- We introduce some spreadsheet specific heuristics to filter out “accidental” FDs

# Organize them

- **Label semantics:** often keys are labeled “code” or “id”
- **Label arrangement:** we prefer FDs respecting the order of columns
- **Antecedent size:** small keys are preferable
- **Ratio:** small ratio between keys and non-keys
- **Single value columns:** columns always with the same value appear in too many FDs

# Final set

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Pilot-Id	Pilot-Name	Phone	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours	N-Number	Model	Plane-Name
2	pl1	John	321654987	OPO	NAT	12/12/2010 – 14:00	07:00	N2342	B 747	Magalhães
3	pl2	Mike	147258369	OPO	NAT	01/01/2011 – 16:00	07:00	N2342	B 747	Magalhães
4	pl1	John	321654987	LIS	AMS	16/12/2010 – 10:00	02:45	N341	B 777	Cabral
5	pl3	John	469184201	OPO	CLJ	13/07/2013 – 10:00	05:45	N101	A 380	DSL
6										

**Pilot-Id → Pilot-Name, Phone**

**N-Number → Model, Plane-Name**

**Pilot-Id, N-Number, Depart, Destination, Date, Hours → {}**

# The first model: a relational model

Having computed the FDs, we can now use the FUN algorithm to produce a *relational model* for the spreadsheet:

***Pilots*** (Pilot-Id, Pilot-Name, Phone)

***Planes*** (N-Number, Model, Plane-Name)

**<*Flights*>** (#Pilot-Id, # N-Number, Depart, Destination, Date Hours)

# III. Models for Spreadsheet – ClassSheets

Engels and Erwig ASE'05

# ClassSheets - Models for Spreadsheets

ClassSheets are a high-level, object-oriented formalism to specify spreadsheets

	A	B	C
1	<b>Pilots</b>		
2	<b>ID</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>
3	pl1	John	321654987
4	pl2	Mike	147258369
5	pl3	Anne	369248136

(a) Pilots' table.

	A	B	C
1	<b>Pilots</b>		
2	<b>ID</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>
3	id=""	name=""	phone=0
⋮			

(b) Pilots' visual ClassSheet model.

Pilots : Pilots | □ | □ ^  
Pilots : ID | Name | Phone ^  
Pilots : (id= "" | name= "" | phone= 0) ↓

(c) Pilots' textual ClassSheet model.

# ClassSheets - Models for Spreadsheets

	A	B	C	D
1	<b>Planes</b>			
2	<b>N-Number</b>	N2342	N341	N1343
3	<b>Model</b>	B 747	B 777	A 380
4	<b>Name</b>	Magalhães	Cabral	Nunes

(a) Planes' table.

	A	B	...
1	<b>Planes</b>		
2	<b>N-Number</b>	n-number=""	
3	<b>Model</b>	model=""	
4	<b>Name</b>	name=""	

(b) Planes' visual ClassSheet model.

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Planes:} \quad \text{Planes} \quad \hat{\quad} \\ \underline{\text{N-Number}} \quad \text{N-Number} \quad \hat{\quad} \\ \underline{\text{Model:}} \quad \text{Model} \quad \hat{\quad} \\ \underline{\text{Name:}} \quad \text{Name} \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Planes:} \quad \sqcup \quad \hat{\quad} \\ \underline{\text{N-Number}} \quad \text{n-number} = \text{""} \\ \underline{\text{Model:}} \quad \text{model} = \text{""} \\ \underline{\text{Name:}} \quad \text{name} = \text{""} \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

(c) Planes' textual ClassSheet model.



# ClassSheets - Models for Spreadsheets

	A	B	C	D	E	...	F
1	<b>Flights</b>	<b>PlanesKey</b>					
2		plane key= <b>Planes.n-number</b>					
3	<b>PilotsKey</b>	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours		Total Pilot Hours
4	pilot_key= <b>Pilots.ID</b>	depart=""	destination=""	date=d	hours=0		total=SUM(hours)
5							total=SUM( <b>PilotsKey</b> .total)

(a) Flights' visual ClassSheet model.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	<b>Flights</b>	<b>PlanesKey</b>				<b>PlanesKey</b>				
2		N2342				N341				
3	<b>PilotsKey</b>	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours	Total Pilot Hours
4	pl1	OPO	NAT	12/12/2010 – 14:00	07:00	LIS	AMS	16/12/2010 – 10:00	02:45	09:45
5	pl2	OPO	NAT	01/01/2011 – 16:00	07:00					07:00
6										16:45

(b) Flights' table.

# IV. Inferring ClassSheets

[VL/HCC'10]

# ClassSheet Inference

Original SS



	A	B
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		



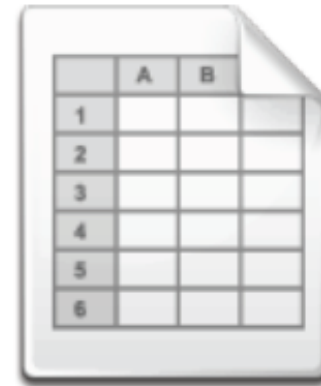
Detect FDs



$A \rightarrow B$   
 $CD \rightarrow E$

$\Rightarrow$  Infer CS  $\Rightarrow$

Improved SS



	A	B
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		



Generate SS App



	A
1	Income
2	Item
3	value = 0
⋮	
4	Total
5	total = SUM(Item.value)

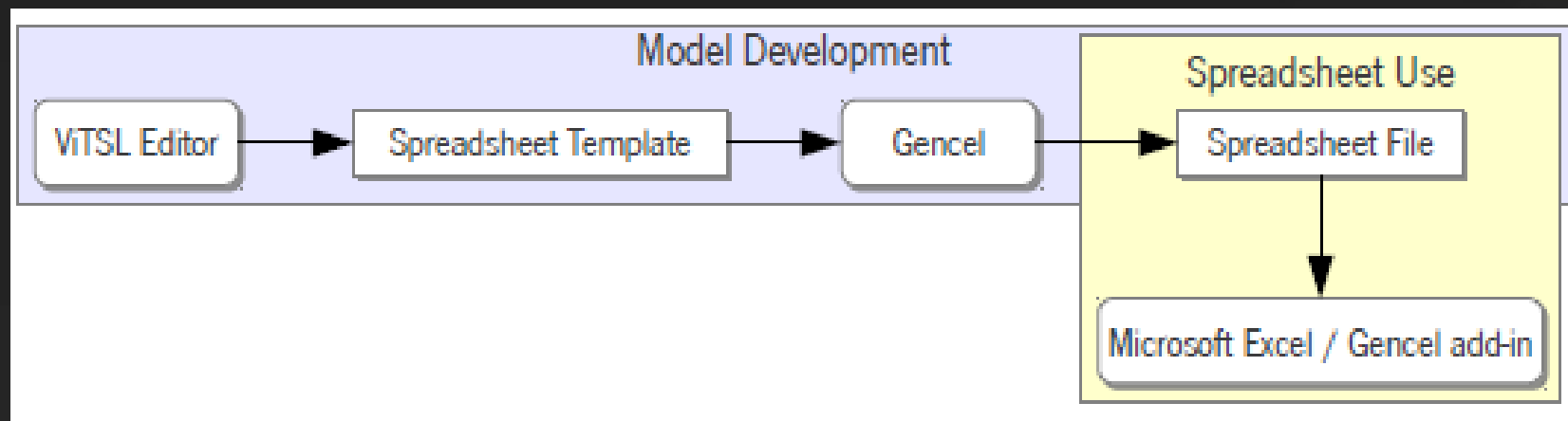
# V. Embedding ClassSheets

[VL/HCC'11]

# Why the Embedding?

The screenshot shows the ViTSL application window. The menu bar includes File, Insert, Delete, Repeat, Preferences, and Help. The spreadsheet grid has columns A through G and rows 1 through 7. The data is as follows:

	A	B	C	D	...	E	F	G
1		2004				Total		
2	Category	Qty	Cost	Total		Qty	Cost	
3		0	0	=B3*C3		=SUM(B3)	=SUM(D3)	
4	Total			=SUM(D3)			=SUM(F3)	
5								
6								
7								



# Embedding...

- Embedding a language into another language is a recurring strategy (e.g. for DSLs)
  - Embedded language inherit all the power of the host language :-)
  - Users are used to the host language and do not need to learn a (complete) new language :-)
  - Implementation effort is much reduced :-)
  - It may have some restrictions :-)
- We embedded *ClassSheets* in traditional *spreadsheet systems*

# Vertically Expandable Tables

	A	B	C
1	<b>Pilots</b>		
2	<b>ID</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Flight hours</b>
3	pl1	John	3400
4	pl2	Mike	330
5	pl3	Anne	433
6			

	A	B	C
1	<b>Pilots</b>		
2	<b>ID</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Flight hours</b>
3	id=""	name=""	flight_hours=0
4	:	:	:

# Horizontally Expandable Tables

	A	B	C	D
1	<b>Planes</b>			
2	<b>N-Number</b>	N2342	N341	N1343
3	<b>Model</b>	B 747	B 777	A 380
4	<b>Name</b>	Magalhães	Cabral	Nunes

	A	B	C
1	<b>Planes</b>		...
2	<b>N-Number</b>	n-number=""	...
3	<b>Model</b>	model=""	...
4	<b>Name</b>	name=""	...



# Relationship Tables

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	<b>Flights</b>	<b>PlanesKey</b>				<b>PlanesKey</b>					
2		N2342				N341					
3	<b>PilotsKey</b>	<b>Depart</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Depart</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Hours</b>		<b>Total Pilot Hours</b>
4	pl1	OPO	NAT	12/12/2010 – 14:00	07:00	LIS	AMS	16/12/2010 – 10:00	02:45	...	09:45
5	pl1	OPO	NAT	01/01/2011 – 16:00	07:00						07:00
6	⋮										
7					14:00				02:45		16:45

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	<b>Flights</b>	<b>PlanesKey</b>				...	
2		plane_key=Planes.n-number				...	
3	<b>PilotsKey</b>	<b>Depart</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Hours</b>	...	<b>Total Pilot Hours</b>
4	pilot_key=Pilots.ID	depart=""	destination=""	date=d	hours=0	...	total=SUM(hours)
5	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	...	⋮
6					total=SUM(hours)	...	total=SUM(PlanesKey.total)

airline.ods - LibreOffice Calc

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

Col+ Col- Row+ Row- μ

L20

1	Flights	PlanesKey <sup>μ</sup>			
2		plane_key=Plane.N-Number			
3	PilotsKey <sup>μ</sup>	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours
4	pl1	OPO	NAT	12/12/2010 - 14:00	07:00
5	pl1	OPO	NAT	01/01/2011 - 16:00	07:00
6	pl4	OPO	NAT	01/01/2010 - 0:00	01:00
7					
8				total=SUM(hours)	

The foreign key constraint guarantees that only existing values are referenced, or created if necessary.

**Invalid Value**

Such Pilot does not exist. Do you want to add it?

OK Cancel

PilotsKey

3	pl1
4	pl1
5	pl1
6	pl4
7	pl1
8	pl2
9	pl3

airline.ods - LibreOffice Calc

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

Col+ Col- Row+ Row- Infer

L24

9	ID <sup>μ</sup>	Name	Flight hours
10	pl1	John	330
11	pl2	Mike	433
12	pl3	Anne	
13	pl2		

The value constraint guarantees that values of a block are within a certain range.

**Invalid Value**

The value should be equal or greater than 0.

OK

airline.ods - LibreOffice Calc

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

Col+ Col- Row+ Row- Infer

L24

1	Flights	PlanesKey <sup>μ</sup>							
2		N2342				PlanesKey <sup>μ</sup>			
3	PilotsKey <sup>μ</sup>	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours
4	pl1	OPO	NAT	12/12/2010 - 14:00	07:00	LIS	AMS	16/12/2010 - 10:00	02:45
5	pl1	OPO	NAT	01/01/2011 - 16:00	07:00			01/01/2010 - 0:00	00:00
6	pl4	OPO	NAT	01/01/2010 - 0:00	01:00			01/01/2010 - 0:00	01:00
7									
8					15:00				03:45
9									
10 <th>Pilots</th> <th>ID <sup>μ</sup></th> <th>Name</th> <th>Flight hours</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	Pilots	ID <sup>μ</sup>	Name	Flight hours					
11		pl1	John	-1					
12		pl2	Mike	330					
13		pl3	Anne	433					
14		pl2							
15									
16									
17									
18 <th>Planes</th> <th>N-Number <sup>μ</sup></th> <th>Model</th> <th>Name</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	Planes	N-Number <sup>μ</sup>	Model	Name					
19		N2342	B 747	Magalhães					
20		N341	B 777	Cabral					
21		N1343	A 380	Nunes					

The primary key constraint guarantees that no duplicate values are inserted in a block.

**Invalid Value**

The key already exists.

OK

# VI. Evolution!

[FASE'11, ICMT'12]

# Why do Spreadsheet Models Need Evolution?

- Suppose now you need to add new information to the spreadsheet
- For instance, the number of passengers of each flight
- It would require to do several error-prone tasks
- Add columns, labels, update formulas, etc.
- We can do it automatically!

# Why do Spreadsheet Instances Need Evolution?

- Some evolution steps are easier to perform on the instance
- For instance, to add a column to one of the repetition blocks
- People felt the need to evolve the data

airline.ods - LibreOffice Calc

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

c+ c- | Col+ Col- | Row+ Row- | μ

L20 f(x) Σ =

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Flights	PlanesKey #				
2		plane_key=Planes.N-Number				
3	PilotsKey	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours	
4	pilot_key=Pilots.ID	depart=""	destination=""	date=01/01/2010 - 0:00	hours=1 > 0	
5	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	
6					total=SUM(hours)	
7						
8	Pilots					
9	ID #	Name	Flight hours			
10	id="" : pl\d+	name=""	flight_hours=0>=0			
11	⋮	⋮	⋮			
12						
13	Planes					
14	N-Number #	n-number="" : N\d+				
15	Model	model=""				
16	Name	name=""				

Model/Data

Sheet 1 / 2

model evolution

=> data co-evolution

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File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

c+ c- | Col+ Col- | Row+ Row- | Infer

L20 f(x) Σ =

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Flights	PlanesKey #				PlanesKey #				
2		N2342				N341				
3	PilotsKey	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours	
4	p1	OPO	NAT	12/12/2010 - 14:00	07:00	LIS	AMS	16/12/2010 - 10:00	02:45	
5	p1	OPO	NAT	01/01/2011 - 16:00	07:00			01/01/2010 - 0:00	00:00	
6	p14			01/01/2010 - 0:00	01:00			01/01/2010 - 0:00	01:00	
7										
8					07:00				02:45	
9	Pilots									
10	ID #	Name	Flight hours							
11	p1	John	3400							
12	p2	Mike	330							
13	p3	Anne	433							
14	⋮									
15										
16	Planes									
17	N-Number #	N2342	N341	N1343						
18	Model	B 747	B 777	A 380						
19	Name	Magalhães	Cabral	Nunes						

Model/Data

Sheet 2 / 2

Sum=0

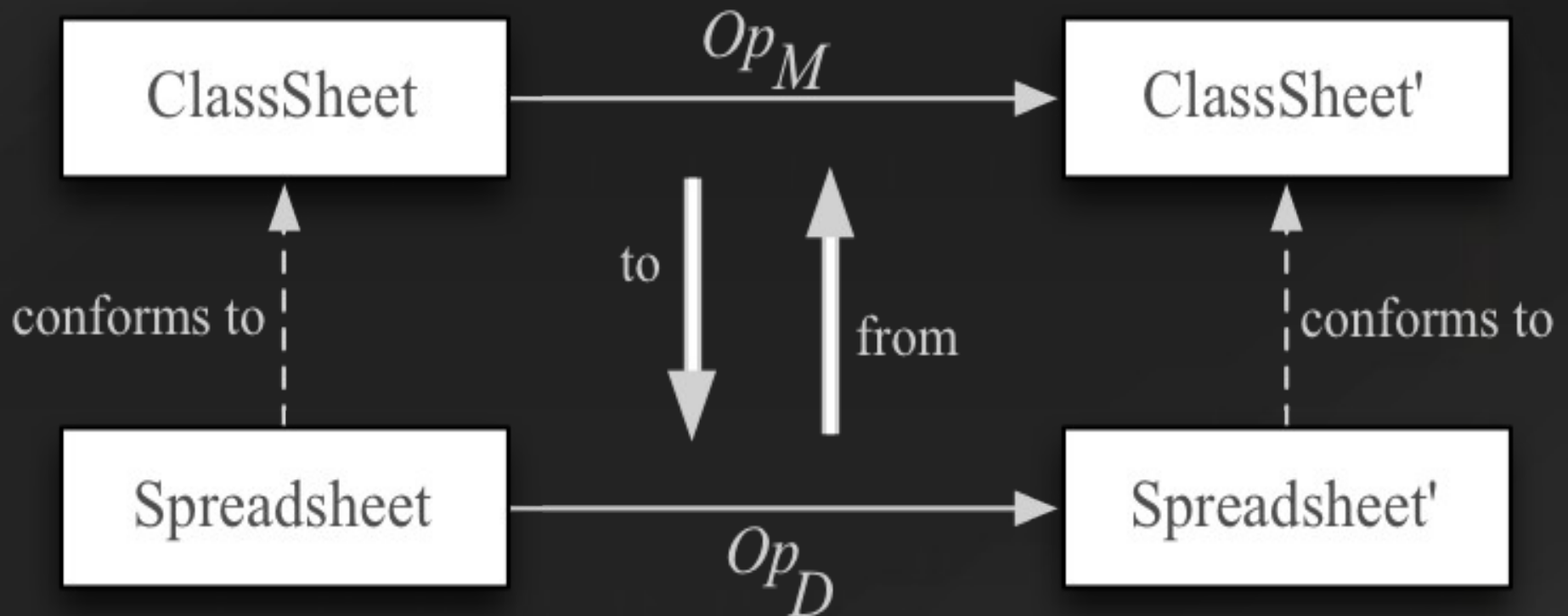
120%

=> model co-evolution

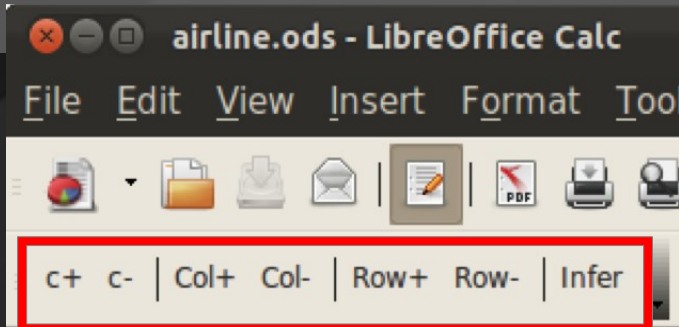
data evolution



# Bidirectional Transformation System



# (Data) Operations on Instances

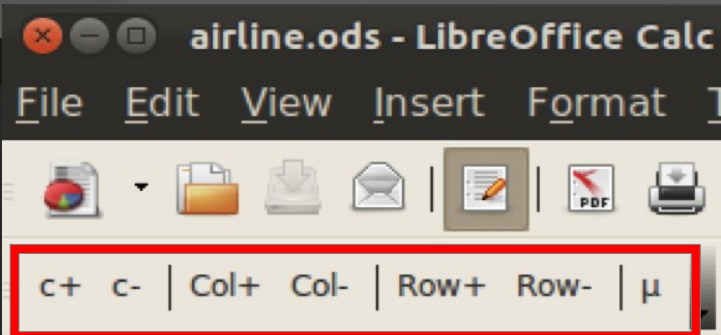


**data**  $Op_D : Data \rightarrow Data =$

<code>addColumn<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>Where Index</code>	-- add a column
<code>delColumn<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>Index</code>	-- delete a column
<code>addRow<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>Where Index</code>	-- add a row
<code>delRow<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>Index</code>	-- delete a row
<code>AddColumn<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>Where Index</code>	-- add a column to all instances
<code>DelColumn<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>Index</code>	-- delete a column from all instances
<code>AddRow<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>Where Index</code>	-- add a row to all instances
<code>DelRow<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>Index</code>	-- delete a row from all instances
<code>replicate<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>ClassName Direction Int Int</code>	-- replicate a class
<code>addInstance<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>ClassName Direction Model</code>	-- add a class instance
<code>setLabel<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>(Index, Index) Label</code>	-- set a label
<code>setValue<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>(Index, Index) Value</code>	-- set a cell value
<code>SetLabel<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>(Index, Index) Label</code>	-- set a label in all instances
<code>SetValue<sub>D</sub></code>	<code>(Index, Index) Value</code>	-- set a cell value in all instances



# (Model) Operations on ClassSheets



```
data  $Op_M : Model \rightarrow Model =$   
   $addColumn_M$    Where Index           -- add a new column  
|  $delColumn_M$    Index                   -- delete a column  
|  $addRow_M$       Where Index           -- add a new row  
|  $delRow_M$       Index                   -- delete a row  
|  $setLabel_M$     (Index, Index) Label       -- set a label  
|  $setFormula_M$  (Index, Index) Formula     -- set a formula  
|  $replicate_M$    ClassName Direction Int Int -- replicate a class  
|  $addClass_M$     ClassName (Index, Index) (Index, Index) -- add a static class  
|  $addClassExp_M$  ClassName Direction (Index, Index) (Index, Index)  
                                     -- add an expandable class
```

# Bidirectional Transformation Functions

$to : Model \times Op_M \rightarrow Op_D^*$   
 $from : Data \times Op_D \rightarrow Op_M^*$

$to : Op_M \rightarrow Op_D^*$   
 $to (addColumn_M \ w \ i \ ) = AddColumn_D \ w \ (columnIndex_D \ i)$   
 $to (delColumn_M \ w \ i \ ) = DelColumn_D \ (columnIndex_D \ i)$   
 $to (addRow_M \ w \ i \ ) = AddRow_D \ w \ (rowIndex_D \ i)$   
 $to (delRow_M \ w \ i \ ) = DelRow_D \ (rowIndex_D \ i)$   
 $to (setLabel_M \ (i,j) \ l \ ) = SetLabel_D \ (position_D \ (i,j)) \ l$   
 $to (setFormula_M \ (i,j) \ f \ ) = SetValue_D \ (position_D \ (i,j)) \ f$

$from : Op_D \rightarrow Op_M^*$   
 $from (addColumn_D \ w \ i) =$   
 $\quad replicate_M \ className \ Horizontal \ classInstances \ instanceIndex_M$   
 $\quad ; addColumn_M \ w \ columnOffsetIndex_M$   
 $from (delColumn_D \ i) =$   
 $\quad replicate_M \ className \ Horizontal \ classInstances \ instanceIndex_M$   
 $\quad ; delColumn_M \ columnOffsetIndex_M$   
 $from (addRow_D \ w \ i) =$   
 $\quad replicate_M \ className \ Vertical \ classInstances \ rowIndex_M$   
 $\quad ; addRow_M \ w \ rowOffsetIndex_M$   
 $from (delRow_D \ i) =$   
 $\quad replicate_M \ className \ Vertical \ classInstances \ rowIndex_M$   
 $\quad ; delRow_M \ rowOffsetIndex_M$   
 $from (setLabel_D \ (i,j) \ l) =$   
 $\quad replicate_M \ className \ Horizontal \ classInstances \ columnIndex_M$   
 $\quad ; replicate_M \ className \ Vertical \ classInstances \ rowIndex_M$   
 $\quad ; setLabel_M \ positionOffset_M \ l$   
 $from (setValue_D \ (i,j) \ l \ ) = \emptyset$   
 $from (addInstance_D \ cn \ dir \ m) = \emptyset$

# Compositional

## Example: *Add a Column and a Class*

`addRowM Before 3; addClassExpM "BlueClass" Horizontal (2,1) (3,4)`



# VII. MDSheet – Model-Driven Spreadsheets

## [ICSE'12]

# MDSheet Tool

<http://youtu.be/6LNdTdCpV2U>

airline.ods - LibreOffice Calc

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

L20

Flights	PlanesKey <sup>#</sup>			
	plane_key=Plane.N-Number			
PilotsKey <sup>#</sup>	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours
pl1	depart=""	destination=""	date=01/01/2010 - 0:00	hours=00:00 : \d\d'\d\d'
pl2				
pl3				
pl4				
				total=SUM(hours)

The foreign key constraint guarantees that only existing values are referenced, or created if necessary.

**Invalid Value**

Such Pilot does not exist. Do you want to add it?

OK Cancel

PilotsKey
pl1
pl1
pl4
pl1
pl2
pl3

airline.ods - LibreOffice Calc

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

L24

Pilots	Name	Flight hours
pl1	John	flight_hours=0>=0
pl2	Mike	330
pl3	Anne	433
pl4		

The value constraint guarantees that values of a block are within a certain range.

**Invalid Value**

The value should be equal or greater than 0.

OK

airline.ods - LibreOffice Calc

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

L24

Flights	PlanesKey <sup>#</sup>	PlanesKey <sup>#</sup>						
	N2342	N341						
PilotsKey <sup>#</sup>	Depart	Destination	Date	Hours	Destination	Date	Hours	
pl1	OPO	NAT	12/12/2010 - 14:00	07:00	LIS	AMS	16/12/2010 - 10:00	02:45
pl2	OPO	NAT	01/01/2011 - 16:00	07:00			01/01/2010 - 0:00	00:00
pl3							01/01/2010 - 0:00	01:00
pl4								
				15:00				03:45

Pilots	Name	Flight hours
pl1	John	-1
pl2	Mike	330
pl3	Anne	433
pl4		

Planes	N-Number <sup>#</sup>	N-Number <sup>#</sup>	N-Number <sup>#</sup>
	N2342	N341	N1343
	B 747	B 777	A 380
	Magalhães	Cabral	Nunes

The primary key constraint guarantees that no duplicate values are inserted in a block.

**Invalid Value**

The key already exists.

OK

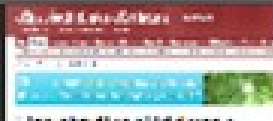
- Available at <http://ssaapp.di.uminho.pt>
- Built out of 7886 LOC:
  - 3181 in Haskell, for the inference and evolution
  - 980 in Basic, for the embedding
  - 2884 in C++, for gluing all components
  - 340 in Perl, for compilation and setup
  - 722, for makefiles



Spreadsheets are great!

Omnipresent  
Easy  
Multi-p  
Flex

And the consequences may be...



### Relational Model

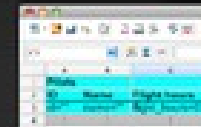
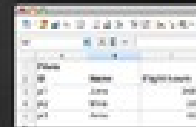
- Having computed the FDs, we can now use the FUN algorithm to produce a relational model from the spreadsheet:

Plots (Pilot, ID, Pilot Name, ID)  
 Planes (X-Number, Model, Pilot)  
 Flights (Pilot, ID, X-Number, ID)



### I. ClassSheet Model Inference

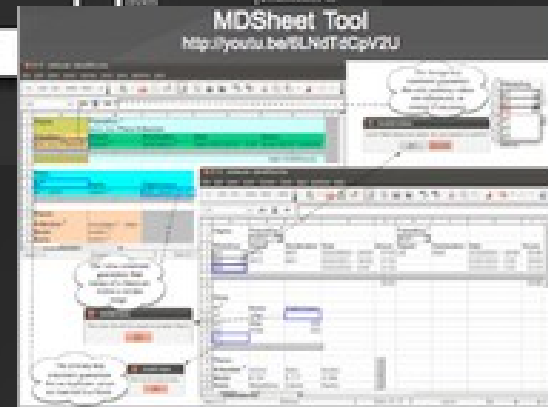
### Embedding ClassSheets in Spreadsheets



- 😊 Powerful internal Single-environment Model-Instance
- 😞 Synthetic restriction

Embedding and Evolution of Spreadsheets  
Jaume Corra, Jorge Mendez, João P. P.

### Bidirectional Transformation System



# Acknowledgments

This work has been done in collaboration with many people:

Martin Erwig, João Paulo Fernandes, Jorge Mendes, Hugo Pacheco, Rui Pereira, João Saraiva, Joost Visser



Thanks!

Questions?

# More?

- More at <http://ssaapp.di.uminho.pt>
- Querying model-driven spreadsheet
- Visually querying model-driven spreadsheets
- Detections of bad smells
- Edit assistance
- Empirical validations
- Variational spreadsheets (@ OSU)
- ...

Does It Work?

# Empirical Study Settings

- 17 student from a MSc course
- 2 different spreadsheets
  - Microsoft budget
  - Local company responsible for water supply of Braga, Portugal - agere

# Study Setting

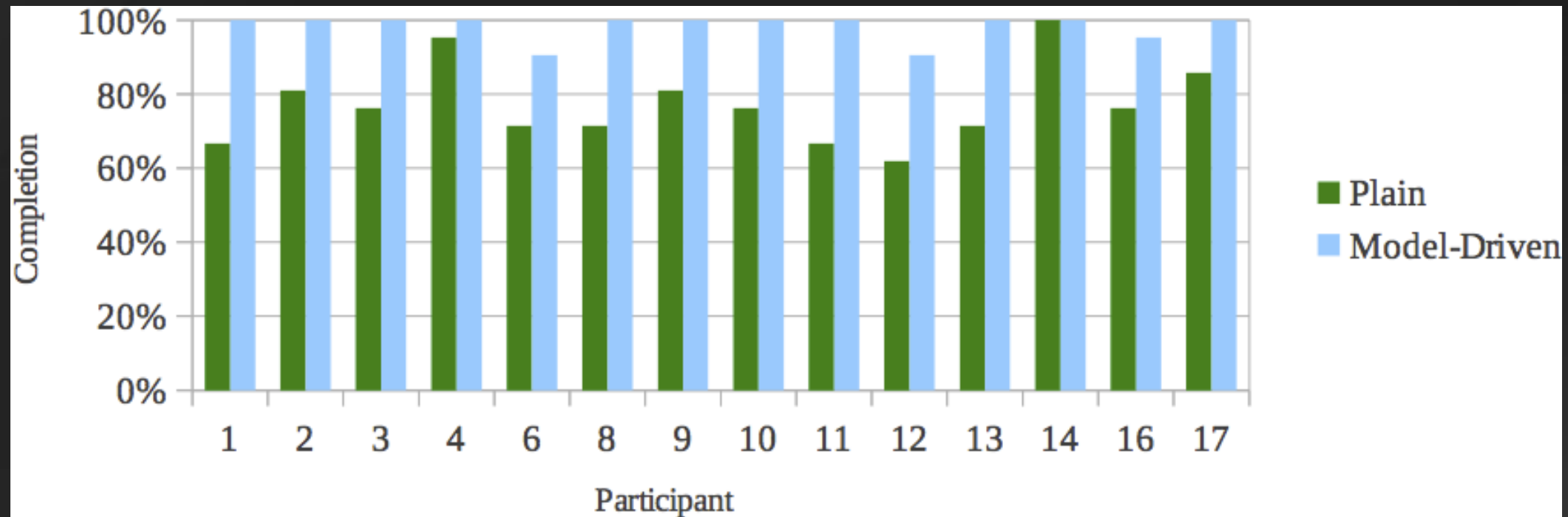
- Hypotheses:

(1) In order to perform a given set of tasks, users spend less time when using model-driven spreadsheets instead of plain ones.

(2) Spreadsheets developed in the model-driven environment hold less errors than plain ones.

# Main Results

Number of tasks performed on the MS spreadsheet



# Main Results

## Error rate in the budget spreadsheet

