History of Reproducible Research

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History of Reproducible Research

## Outline

The Magic of Science

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Computational Experiment Example



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## The Magic of Science



- Verification and Validation
- Reproducibility
- Peer Review





## The Magic of Computer Science





Abandoning the habit of secrecy in favor of process transparency and peer review was the crucial step by which alchemy became chemistry. In the same way, it is beginning to appear that open-source development may signal the long-awaited maturation of software development as a discipline. Eric S. Raymond, TAUP, 2004





## The Magic of Computational Science

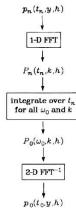
Within the world of science, computation is now rightly seen as a third vertex of a triangle complementing experiment and theory. However, as it is now often practiced, one can make a good case that computing is the last refuge of the scientific scoundrel [...] Where else in science can one get away with publishing observations that are claimed to prove a theory or illustrate the success of a technique without having to give a careful description of the methods used, in sufficient detail that others can attempt to repeat the experiment? Randall J. LeVegue, ICM, 2006





# (Hale, 1984)

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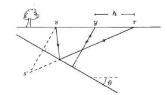


Fig. 1. The seismic experiment, conducted over a simplified subsurface with one dipping reflector. Applying the law of cosines to triangle s'sr, one may express the travel time t from source s to receiver r in terms of zero-offset time  $t_0$ , half-offset h, velocity v. and dip 0. The result is equation (3) in the text, the

#### Defining

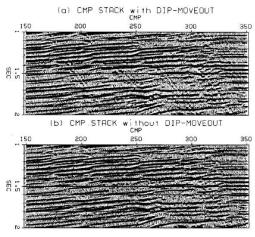
$$A \equiv \frac{dt_n}{dt_0} = \frac{t_0}{t_n} = \left[1 + \left(\frac{\Delta t_0}{\Delta y}\right)^2 \frac{h^2}{t_n^2}\right]^{1/2},$$

and using equation (10) to replace  $p_0(\sqrt{t_n^2 + (\Delta t_0/\Delta y)^2 h^2})$ ,  $y, h = p_n(t_n, y, h)$ , the Fourier transform becomes

$$P_0(\omega_0, k, h) = \int dt_n A^{-1} e^{i\omega_0 t_n A} \int dy e^{-iky} p_n(t_n, y, h).$$
 (13)



# (Hale, 1984)



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# The Magic of Computational Science

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An article about computational science in a scientific publication is not the scholarship itself, it is merely advertising of the scholarship. The actual scholarship is the complete software development environment and the complete set of instructions which generated the figures.

Jon B. Buckheit and David L. Donoho, WaveLab, 1995



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## Stanford Exploration Project



The Magic of Science

- ▶ 1 proposal, 60 PhDs
- Electronic books
- (Schwab, Karrenbach, and Claerbout, 2000)

The purpose of reproducible research is to facilitate someone going a step further by changing something. The first step that someone will want to make is to be sure that your work is reproducible before they change and improve upon it. Jon F. Claerbout, 1991





## Follow Up

- ► Computational Harmonic Analysis (Donoho et al)
- Computational Wave Propagation (LeVeque)
- Computational Biostatistics (Gentlemen et al)
- Summarized in CiSE, Jan/Feb 2009



#### Lessons

- Reproducibility = Maintenance
- Community is important
- Tools are important
  - 1. Number crunching
  - 2. Visualization and experiment setup
  - 3. Publications and presentations
- Computational experiments are tests



# MADAGASCAR Package

- Publicly available since 2006
- Version 0.9.6

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- Open source, open community, open science
- ▶ Vladimir Bashkardin, Jules Browaeys, Cody Brown, Will Burnett, Maria Cameron, Sergey Fomel, Gilles Hennenfent, Trevor Irons, Jim Jennings, Long Jin, Yang Liu, Doug McCowan, Henryk Modzelewski, Colin Russell, Paul Sava, Jeffrey Shragge, Eduardo Filpo Silva, Ioan Vlad, Jia Yan
- ▶ http://rsf.sourceforge.net



#### MADAGASCAR Tools

- 1. Number crunching
  - Main programs (C, Fortran, C++, etc)
  - 500 modules
- 2. Visualization and experiment setup
  - Data processing flows (Python/SCons)
  - 600 scripts, 1,700 tests
- 3. Publications and presentations
  - Books and papers (LATEX and Python/SCons)
  - 100 papers



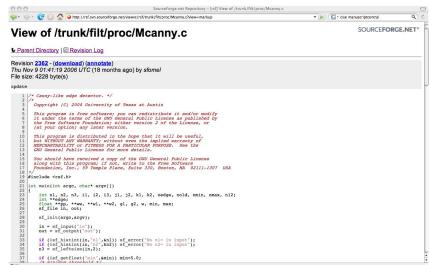
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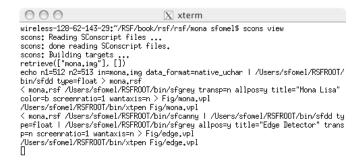






```
SConstruct
          # Download data
Fetch('mona.img','imgs')
# Convert to standard format
Flow('mona', 'mona.img',
    echo n1=512 n2=513 in=$SOURCE data format=native uchar |
    dd type=float
    ''', stdin=0)
Result('mona',
      grey transp=n allpos=y title="Mona Lisa"
      color=b screenratio=1 wantaxis=n
      ''')
Result('edge', 'mona',
      canny | dd type=float |
      grey allpos=y title="Edge Detector" transp=n screenratio=1 wantaxis=n
      ''')
1:-- SConstruct
                     3% (21,0)
                                   (Python)
Find file: ~/RSF/book/rsf/rsf/
```



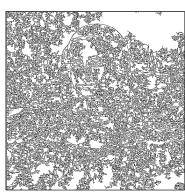








Mona Lisa



Edge Detector



```
SConstruct
           S 🖠 🖟 🛈 📵 📵 📵
# Edge preserving smoothing
rect=80 # smoothing radius
Flow('mona2', 'mona', 'impl2 rect1=%d rect2=%d tau=1' % (rect, rect))
Result('mona2',
      grey transp=n allpos=y title="Smoothed"
      color=b screenratio=1 wantaxis=n
       111)
Result('edge2', 'mona2',
      canny | dd type=float |
      grey allpos=y title="Edge Detector" transp=n screenratio=1 wantaxis=n
       111)
End()
1:-- SConstruct
                     Bot (28,0)
                                    (Python)
```







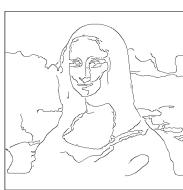






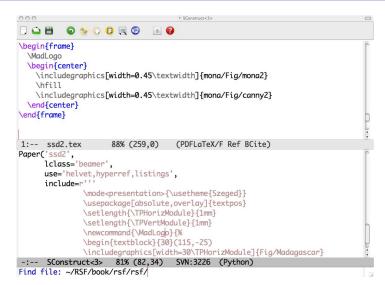


Smoothed



Edge Detector







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#### Conclusions



- Reproducible computational experiments
- Reproducibility = maintenance
- MADAGASCAR software package





Conclusions

# Help Needed

- Automatic testing
- Efficient parallelization

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- Visualization standards
- Graphical User Interface

http://rsf.sourceforge.net