

Creating a Tool for Authoring Interactive Narrative using *Comme il Faut*

Ryan Andonian, Travis Brown, Devon Wyland
{randonia, trhbrown, dwyland} @ ucsc.edu

Comme il Faut

Comme il Faut (CiF) is a social AI system which allows for the authoring of social situations where Social Games can be played. *CiF* maintains a history of social games, facts, character beliefs, and psychological states.

- Social Game - multi-character social interactions designed to modify the current state existing in the game world
- Social Fact - notion of any interaction or event that occurs in and changes the game world

Authoring Tool

Purpose

Authoring Social Games is a time-consuming process. With the tool, the authoring of these games becomes less tedious, easier to visualize, and minimizes the time spent hard-coding Social Games.

- Gives non-coders the opportunity to author their own social environment

UI Design

- Easy to navigate
- Layout designed with Adobe Flash Builder 4

Data Flow

- Uses the *CiF* library to build working data sets
- Exports into a Social Game

Cultural Knowledge Base

Subjectivity

- Characters “like” and “dislike” specific activities and objects

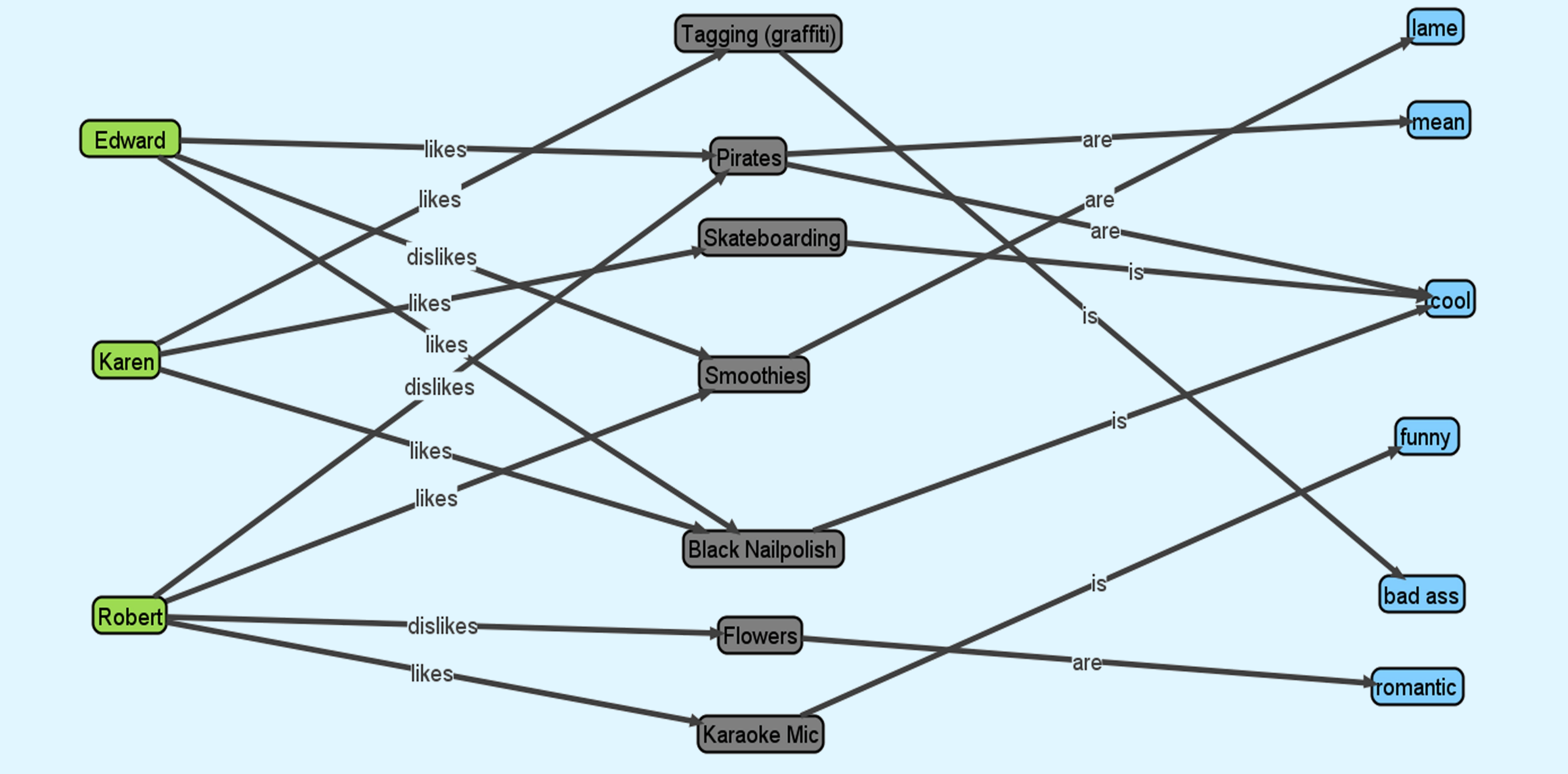
Zeitgeist

- The CKB contains the accepted labels on these activities and objects

Functionality

- Allows characters to relate to and form opinions about others by linking their subjective beliefs to the zeitgeist, which influences the available in game interactions

Visual Representation of CKB



Social Facts Database

Contents

- Contains the complete history of Social Games
 - List of all characters involved
 - Relative time-line
- List of topics brought up
- List of choices made

Functionality

- Allows characters to “remember” events and Social Game outcomes
- Past events influence characters' available decisions

Unit Testing

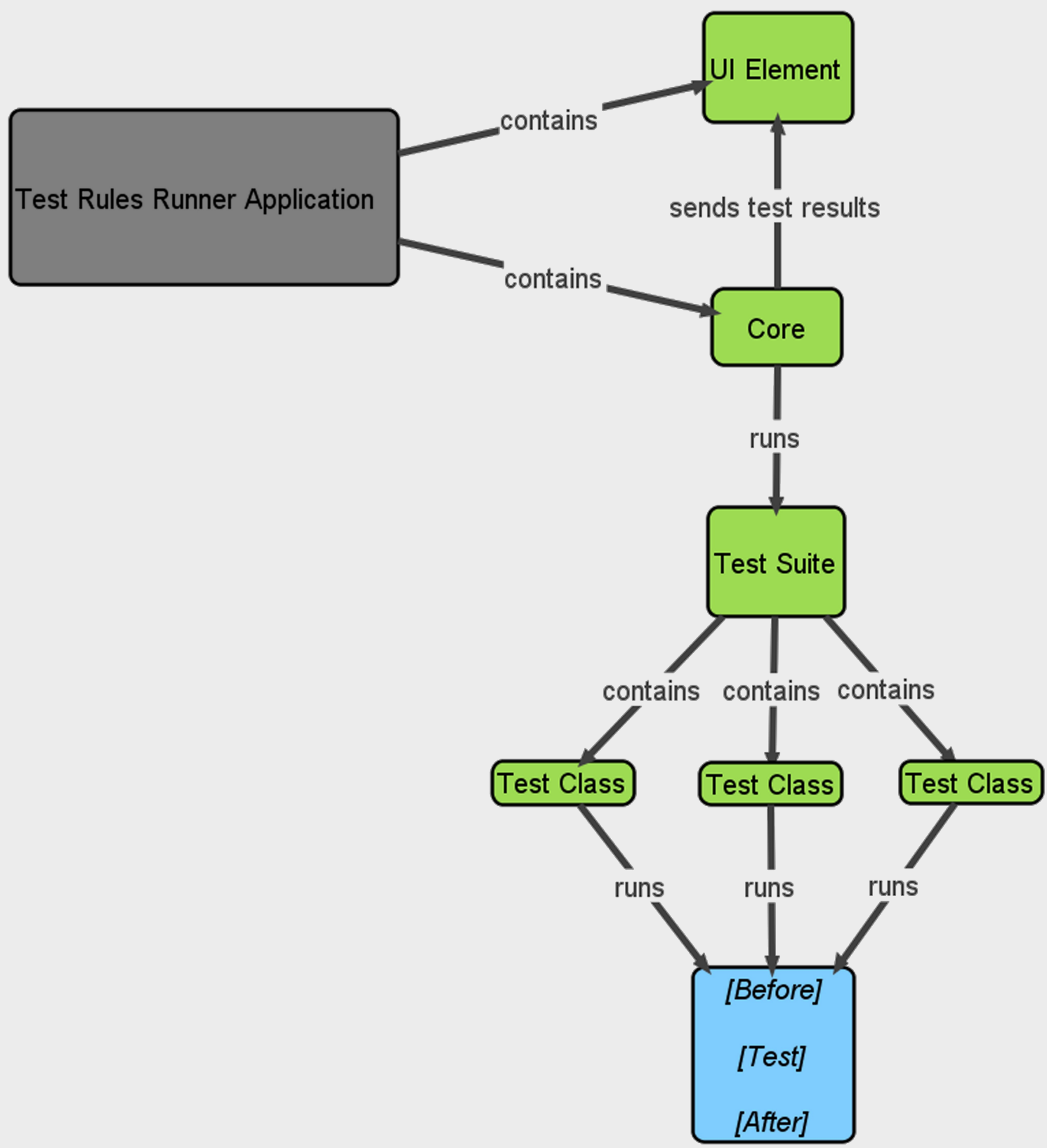
Purpose

- To test every unit operation of class functions
- Higher level functions (constructors, accessors, getters and setters) need to be tested, while primitive types can be trusted to work

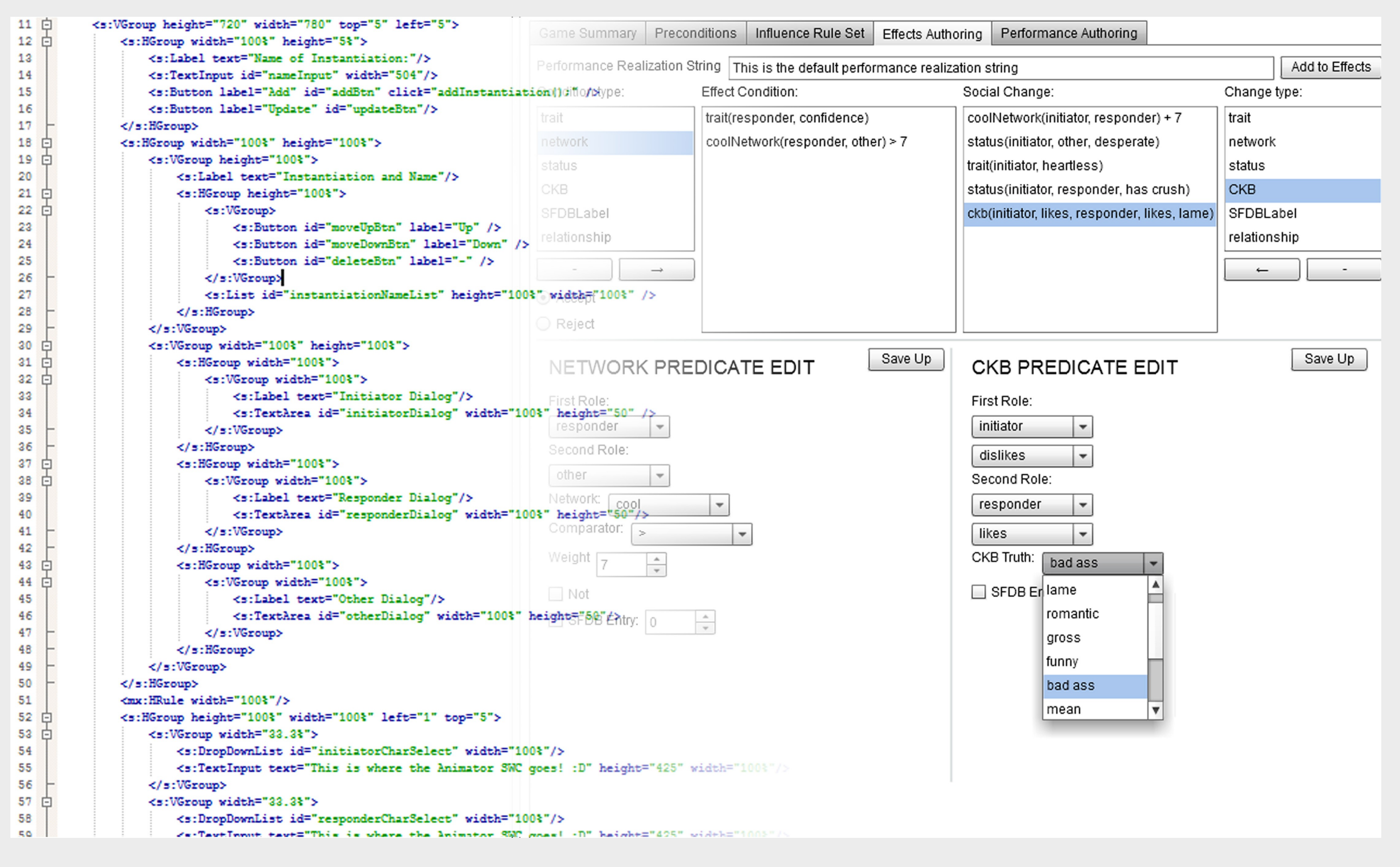
Functionality

- Provides us with regression testing, as the unit tests can be checked at any point of the design process.
- Able to compare our expected output with what our functions actually output.

Unit Testing Work Flow



Code to GUI



Faculty and Graduate Guidance

PhDs: Joshua McCoy, Ben Samuel, Brandon Tearse, Mike Treanor

Faculty: Michael Mateas, Noah Wardrip-Fruin