



EuSpRIG 2018

eusprig.org

**Thursday 5th July 2018, Lecture Theatre 340,
Department of Computing, Huxley Building,
Imperial College London, 180 Queen's Gate,
Kensington, London SW7 2RH, UK**

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/computing/about/getting-here/>

10.30-11.00 Arrival, Registration, Coffee and welcome

11:00-11:10 Opening address from our sponsor Global Software Inc. "Can We Achieve Error-Free Spreadsheets?"

11:10 – 13.30 Session 1

Structured Spreadsheet Modelling and Implementation with Multiple Dimensions - Part 2: Implementation
Paul Mireault, SSMI International

Defining and Adopting an end user computing policy. A case study
Roger Turner, Wesleyan

Are digital natives spreadsheet natives?
Maria Csernoch and Piroska Biró, University of Debrecen

13.30 Lunch

14.30 – 15.30 Session 2

Sponsor case studies from Maarten Bessems, Global Software Inc.

Make GIT work with Excel workbook files
Bjoern Siel, ZoomerAnalytics

15:30-16:00 Panel Discussion

16:00 Conference Closes


Food and drink for the evening will be found locally, please come along and enjoy the post conference discussions. Details to be announced at the conference.

ABSTRACTS

Structured Spreadsheet Modelling and Implementation with Multiple Dimensions - Part 2: Implementation

Paul Mireault

Founder, SSMI International

Honorary Professor, HEC Montréal 

Paul.Mireault@SSMI.International

ABSTRACT

In Part 1, we showed how to develop a conceptual model of a problem involving variables of multiple dimensions, like Products, Regions, Sectors and Months. The conceptual model is presented as a Formula Diagram, giving a global view of the interaction between all the variables, and a Formula List, giving a precise view of the interaction between the variables. In this paper, we present precise steps to implement a multi-dimensional problem in a way that will produce a spreadsheet that is easy to maintain.

Are digital natives spreadsheet natives?

Maria Csernoch, Piroska Biró

University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary Kassai út 26. 4028

csernoch.maria@inf.unideb.hu, biro.piroska@inf.unideb.hu

ABSTRACT

The present paper reports the results of testing first year students of Informatics on their algorithmic skills and knowledge transfer abilities in spreadsheet environments. The selection of students plays a crucial role in the project. On the one hand, they have officially finished their spreadsheet training – they know everything –, while on the other hand, they do not need any training, since they are digital natives, to whom digital skills are assigned by birth. However, we found that the students had serious difficulties in solving the spreadsheet problems presented; so low were their results that it allowed us to form broad tendencies. Considering computational thinking, algorithmic skills, and knowledge transfer abilities, it is clear that those students performed better who used algorithm-based, multilevel array formulas instead of problem specific, unconnected built-in functions. Furthermore, we can conclude that students, regardless of their birth date and digital generation assigned to them, are in great need of official, high-mathability, algorithm-based training with expert teachers.

Defining and Adopting an End User Computing Policy A Case Study

Roger Turner

Wesleyan Assurance Society, Colmore Circus, Birmingham, B4 6AR

roger.turner@wesleyan.co.uk

ABSTRACT

End User Computing carries significant risks if not well controlled. This paper is a case study of the introduction of an End User Computing policy at the Wesleyan Assurance Society. The paper outlines the plan and identifies various challenges. The paper explains how these challenges were overcome. We wrote an End User Computing Risk Assessment Application which calculates a risk rating band based on the Complexity, Materiality and Control (or lack of it) pertaining to any given application and the basis of assessment is given in this paper. The policy uses a risk based approach for assessing and mitigating against the highest risks first and obtaining the quickest benefit.