

- P2P2P -

“PlusCal to PlantUML to PDF”

Making Formal Methods Explainable

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TLA+ Community Event @ ETAPS 2026

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01

Problem

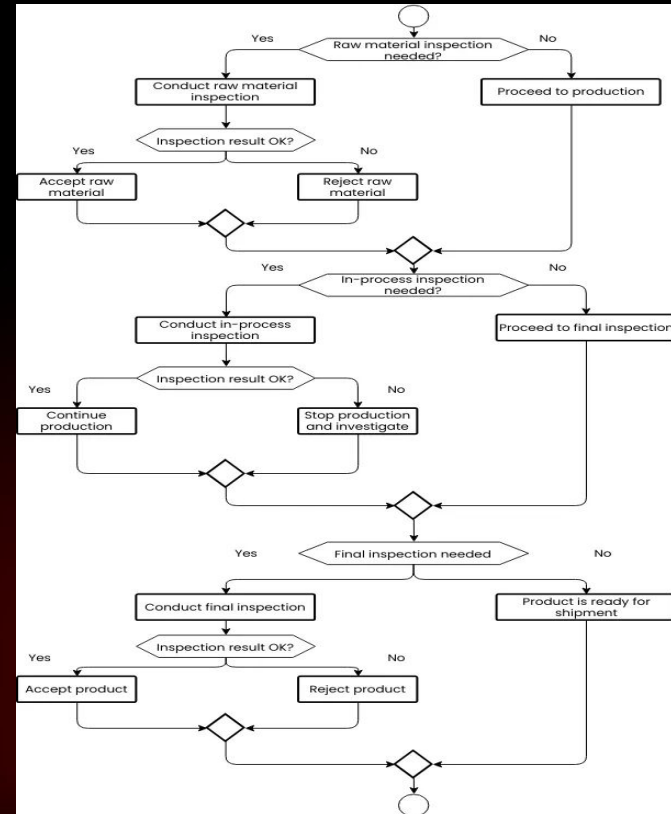
The Problem

Formal methods are powerful...
but hard to communicate

- ❖ Engineers -> code
- ❖ Stakeholders -> Visuals
- ❖ Formal models -> in between

Diagrams Are the Bottleneck

- ❖ Manual & Slow
- ❖ Quickly Outdated
- ❖ Not Trustworthy



SanDisk Current Workflow



English
Specs

UML
Diagrams

Reviews

Verification

PDF

Manual Reviews Risk

Manual Diagrams \neq Verified Logic

- ❖ Hand-crafted diagrams
- ❖ Verification not enforced
- ❖ Risk of hidden errors

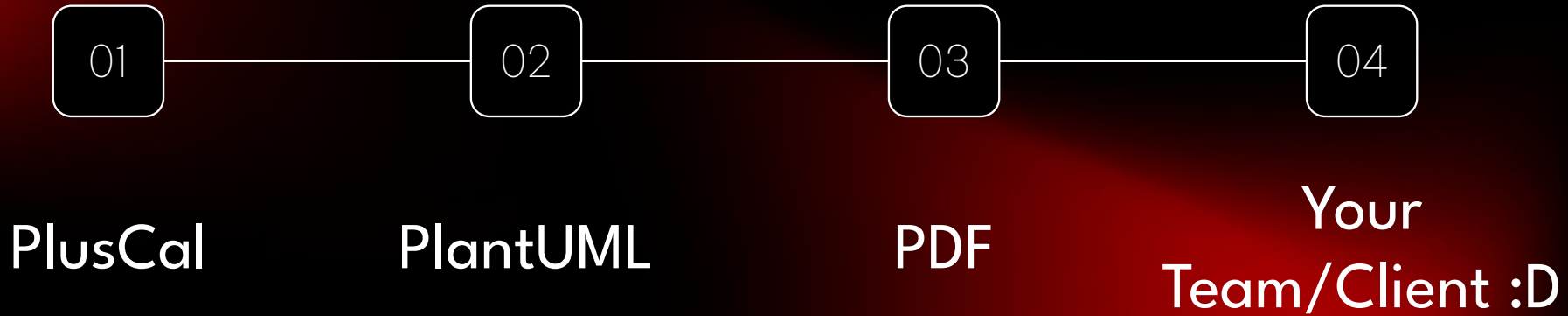
What if documentation came directly from verified models?



02

Solution

P2P2P Pipeline Overview



What It Does



VSCode
Integration



Automatic Diagram
Generation



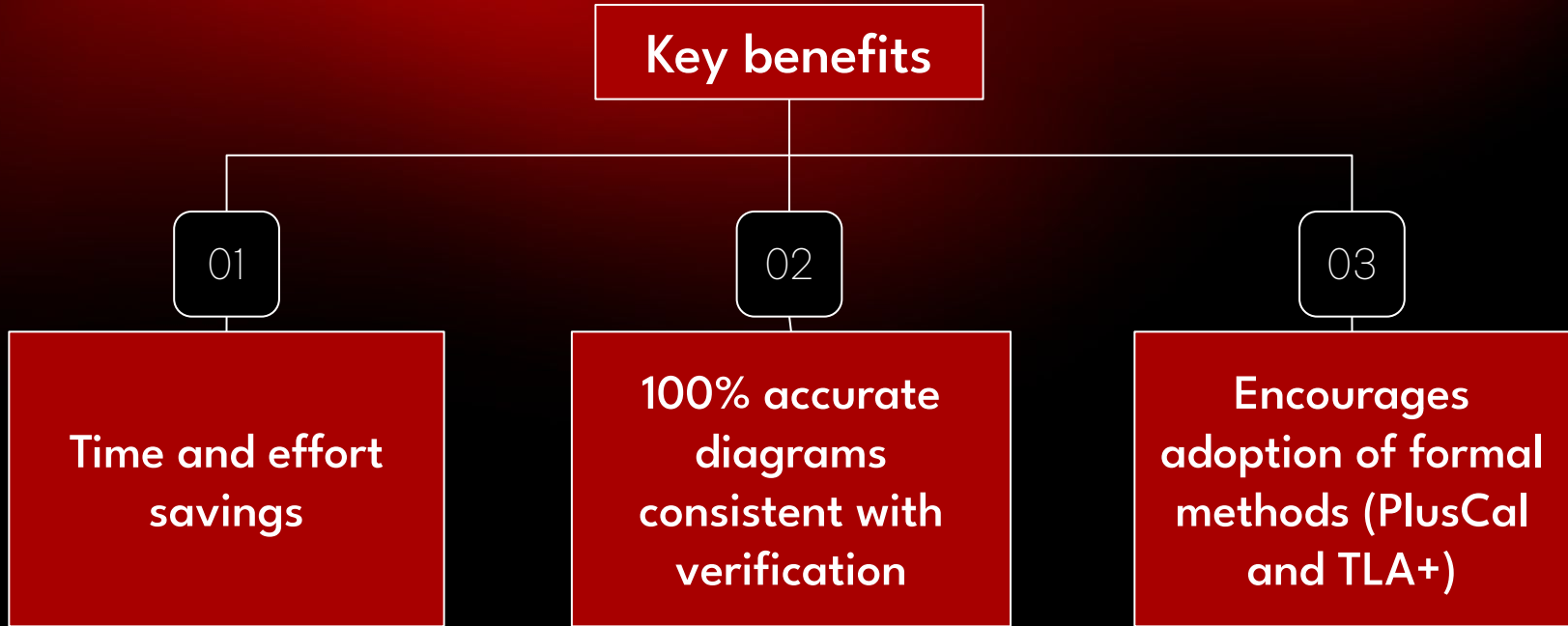
Professional
PDFs

Key Idea

Making formal methods social



Value of the Solution



Core Principle

If it's not verified,

it doesn't get documented



03

Transformation

PlusCal Model

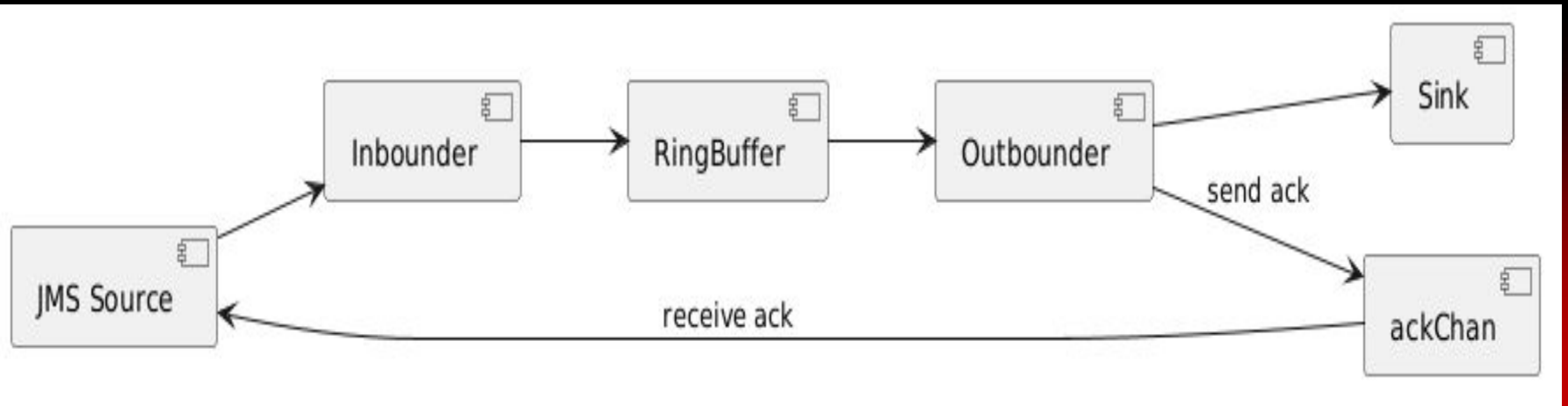
3 processes + shared queues

```
process JMSSource:
  source := Append(source, uid);

process Inbounder:
  DuplexTransferOne(source, sentUnacked, ringBuffer);

process Outbounder:
  TransferOne(ringBuffer, sink);
  ackChan := Append(ackChan, event);
```

System Structure



Key Semantics

- ❖ Message ordering
- ❖ Bounded buffer (RingBufSz)
- ❖ Acknowledgment correctness

Verification (TLC)

Config

Model Checking:

- ❖ RingBufSz = 16
- ❖ State constraint:
 - Len(source) < 11
 - Len(sink) < 13

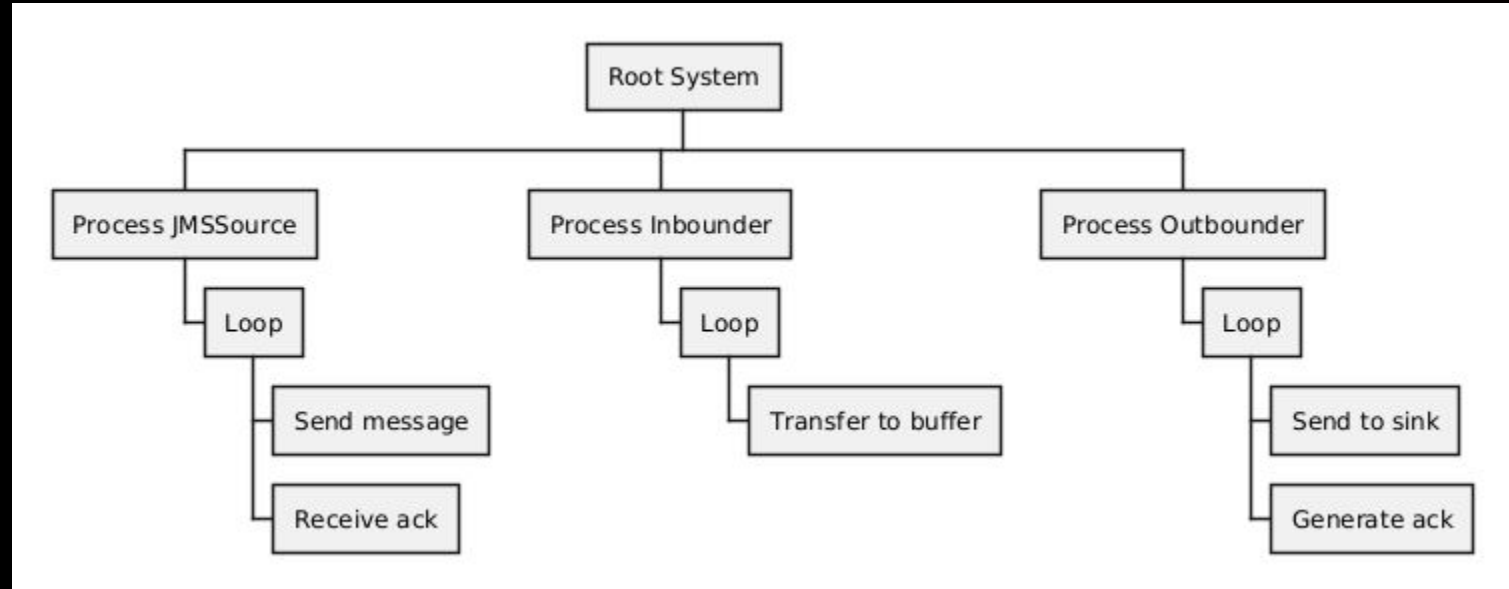
Properties

Assertions:

- ❖ ack = inmsg
- ❖ No duplicate acks
- ❖ sink[i] = i (ordering)

Model Structure (AST)

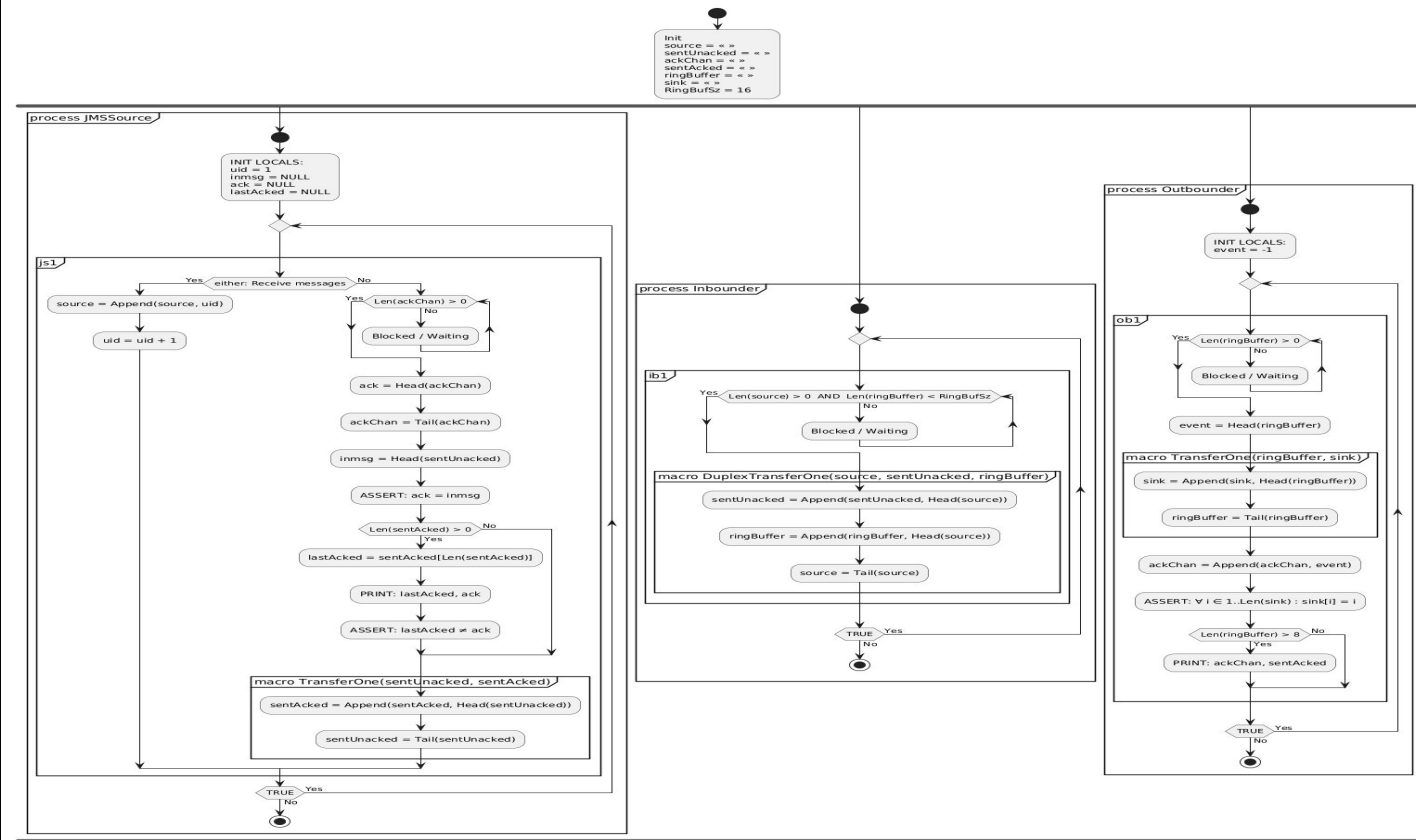
Extracted from TLA+ model



Mapping to UML

PlusCal	Diagram
process	swimlane
while	loop
await	guard

Generated Diagram



What you see

=

What was verified

PDF Output

**DONE RIGHT (→)
DESIGNED RIGHT**



Challenging the
Status Quo
By Introducing
Cheap and Practical
Formal Methods

A More Precise and
Scientific Way to
Achieve Quality

DIAGRAM EXPORT | FEB. 2026

HASH KEY: 4515ba1cc0b846c0efc45a69873f5c47f16a0718a674613a0482047616c

VERIFICATION:

COMPID: 8cf740205a30a30a49904640a001205a010464

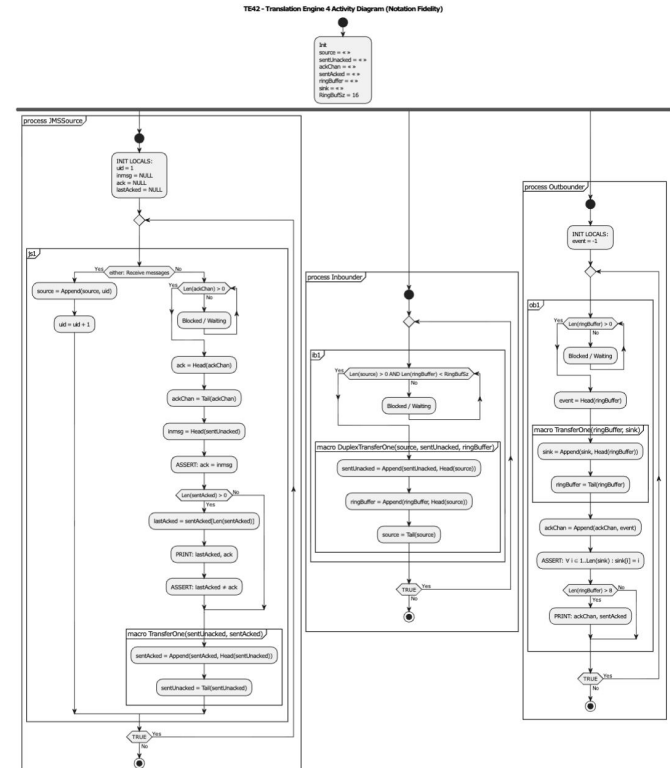
TLA#: (cstara1343a)

TLG OUTPUTS: (cstara1343a) (RESULT+STATS+COVERAGES+LOG)

TLG STATUS: UNKNOWN

FILE: M2046c70986f123604f771230b099f6e7b0c4a0f123024ef612346942ba

MANIFEST: ACTIVITY_TG42.ACTIVITY_030N



Supported Diagrams



Activity



Sequence





Predicate-Action

Hashing

>p2p2

P2P2P: Verify Output Package Hashes

recently used  


```
[PASS] PURL File (TwoPhaseCommit.puml): Hash matched
(4bf2eb2fba6ae95b02ed579a762d9c20fb3112f67184d9688f2ea48974a08aae)
[PASS] TLA File (TwoPhaseCommit.tla): Hash matched
(4f265e26e61a17b4ebde3845b3b9a0b96d314fafab69d83cecaf80c4538ab086)
[PASS] Embedded Diagram (diagram.png): Hash matched
(abe4db703f369eb71f56a584ebeedcaacc4c3e5c53b3baca1daa4c0f2f7eccda)
[INFO] Final PDF exists in package (TwoPhaseCommit_state.pdf).
```

 SUCCESS: All hashes verified successfully.


---- P2P2P VERIFY PACKAGE END ----

 Package Verification Passed! All files matched the manifest hashes.

```
(4bf2eb2fba6ae95b02ed579a762d9c20fb3112f67184d9688f2ea48974a08aae)
[FAIL] TLA File (TwoPhaseCommit.tla): Hash mismatch!
  Expected: 4f265e26e61a17b4ebde3845b3b9a0b96d314fafab69d83cecaf80c4538ab086
  Actual:   b75b0782e9c003dc1994d490750f038495835500cd69c6d5c0c62b42069a7922
[PASS] Embedded Diagram (diagram.png): Hash matched
(abe4db703f369eb71f56a584ebeedcaacc4c3e5c53b3baca1daa4c0f2f7eccda)
[INFO] Final PDF exists in package (TwoPhaseCommit_state.pdf).
```

 FAILURE: Hash mismatch detected. Files may have been modified.

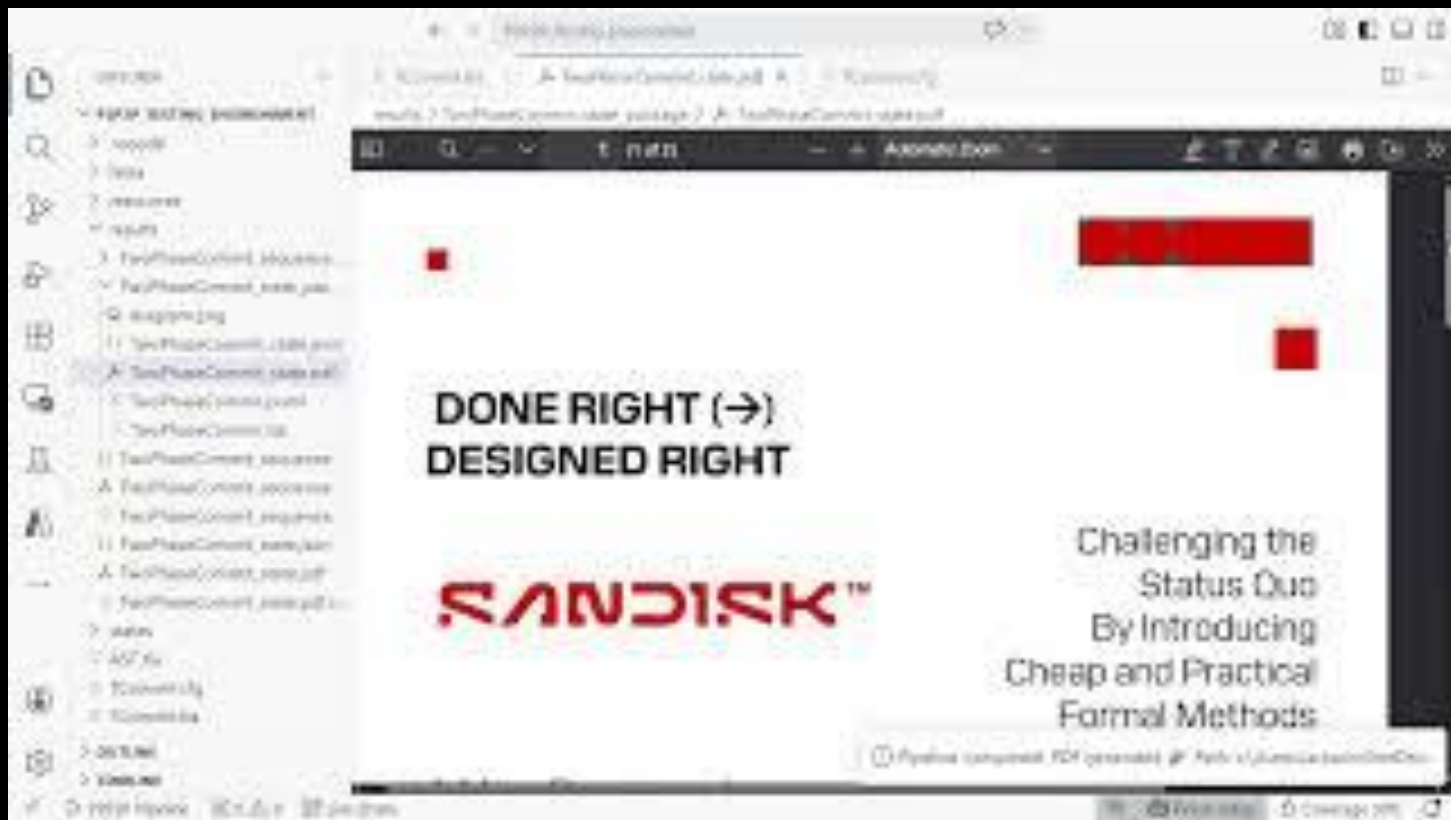
---- P2P2P VERIFY PACKAGE END ----

 Package Verification Failed. See P2P2P output for details.

Living Documentation

- ❖ Always updated
- ❖ Always verified
- ❖ Always consistent

Live Demo



The image shows a screenshot of a web browser window. On the left, a file explorer sidebar is visible, showing a directory structure with various files and folders. The main content area of the browser displays a webpage with a white background. The text on the page reads: "DONE RIGHT (→) DESIGNED RIGHT" in bold black letters, followed by the "SANDISK™" logo in red. To the right of the logo, there is a red rectangular block and a red square. Below this, the text says "Challenging the Status Quo By Introducing Cheap and Practical Formal Methods". At the bottom of the page, there is a small footer with a copyright notice: "© Applied Computer PDF generated by Applied America Inc. 2010-2011".



04

Impact

Team Impact



Faster
Reviews



Less
Manual Work



Fewer
inconsistencies

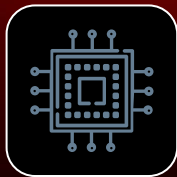
Methods Impact

- ❖ Lower barrier to TLA+
- ❖ Better communication

Guarantees

- ❖ *Less than 60 seconds per model*
- ❖ *Deterministic outputs*
- ❖ *100% accuracy with verified PlusCal*

Credibility



Unit Testing

Functions in Rust modules
(parser, AST, codegen)



Integration Testing

Full Pipeline (from
TLA+ to PDF)



Usability Testing

Visual Studio Code
workflow

Tests run continuously during development (CI + pre-demo validation)



05

Architecture

High-Level Architecture

01

VS Code
Extension

As an user
interface

02

Rust Compiler Pipeline

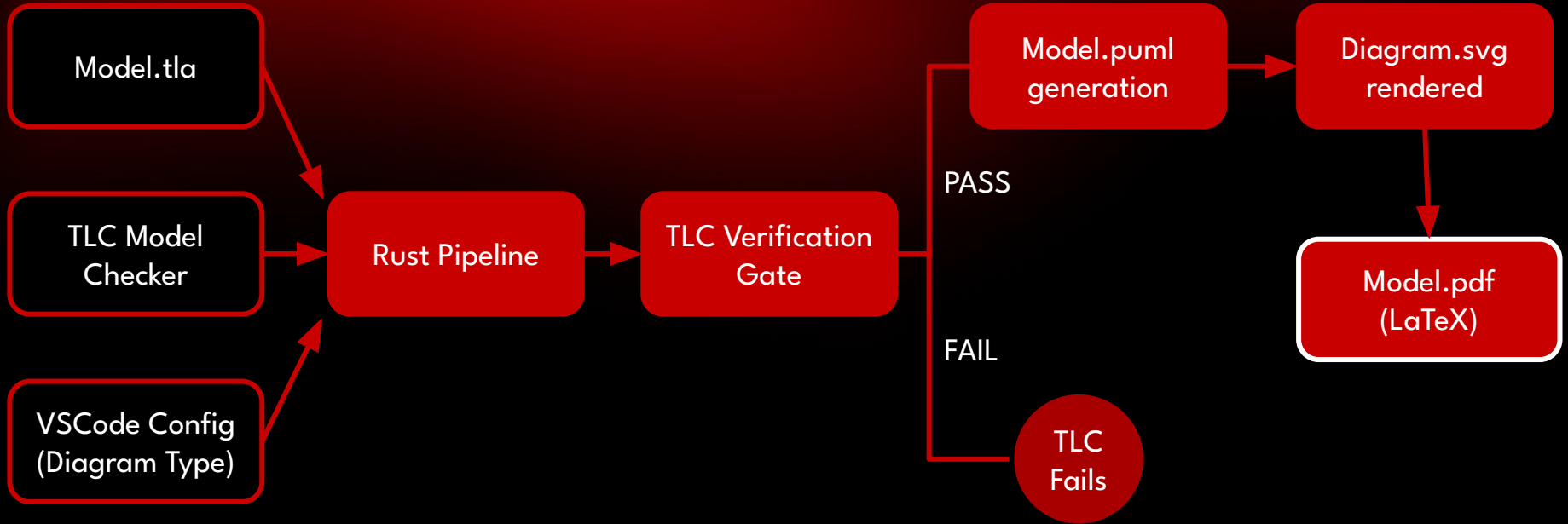
Orchestrates the
compilation of the project
and ensures correctness

03

LaTeX PDF

With AI
insertions to
document

Data Flow



Architectural Decisions

Modular Monolith

Modular monolith
over microservices

Distributed scaling
would add latency,
complexity and
dependances

Pipeline Dependency Model

Each stage depends only
on artifacts from the
previous stage

This ensures determinism
and traceability

Rust Backend

Memory safety
High performance
Strong type
system

Critical for large
AST parsing



06

Closing

Formal methods are only useful
if people understand them

Future Work



More diagram
types



Better
customization



Wider
adoption

TLA+ proves correctness

P2P2P proves it to the people

Thanks!

Do you have any questions?