

### **Comment on: "Quality Measures for Hash Functions"**

Software developers are constantly looking for novel ways to address new problems. Less frequently we are presented with a work that reviews an old issue supposedly solved decades ago. Happily, this is not the case with Andrés Valloud as he is constantly exercising the habit of coming up with a fresh view of well known matters. In this case Valloud has performed an extensive and profound study of hash functions. In his research he encountered that many assumptions normally taken as granted were false. More importantly, Valloud shows in his work that, when treated with rigor, hash functions provide much better results for common Smalltalk structures as Sets and Dictionaries. Surprisingly enough, his study proved to be so rich that what had been originally intended as a single chapter of his book on Smalltalk programming, ended up as a full book entirely dedicated to the subject. And as Valloud is, besides a prolific writer, an exquisite Smalltalk programmer, he also implemented a tool that can be used to verify how effective a proposed hash really is.

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