

Institut für Informatik

Software Quality

Lecture 6 – Human Aspects

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Announcement

Next week:

Continuous Integration guest lecture by Beat Fluri

Overview

- Introduction to Human Aspects in Software Development
- Information Needs in Collocated Software Development Teams
- Code Bubbles
- [Coping with the Information Overload]
- Exercise Discussion

Learning Goals

- Describe why human aspects are important for achieving high software quality
- Describe information needs developers have and how they can affect the work
- Explain how Code Bubbles can support developers
- Be able to analyze and discuss a research paper

Human Aspects in Software Development

- Software is built by humans
- To ensure adequate quality in the final product, humans need to be able to understand and reason about the system
- → How can we help the human to build better software?

Research on Human Aspects

 Defect prediction based on source code metrics can be improved significantly using developer's micro interaction metrics, such as number of edits for low DOI elements [Lee et al.. *Micro Interaction Metrics for Defect Prediction.*]

Ownership can correlate with defects; changes by minor contributors tend to cause more failures; changes by minor contributors should be reviewed with more scrutiny [Bird et al. Don't touch my code! Examining the effects of ownership on software quality.]

Information Needs in Collocated Software Development Teams

- Observed 17 software developers at large companies for 90-minute sessions
- Transcribed sessions to identify information needs and quantified them
 - Writing Code, e.g. How do I use this data structure of function?
 - □ Submitting a Change, *e.g. Did I follow my team's conventions?*
 - □ Triaging Bugs, *e.g.* Is the problem worth fixing?
 - □ Reproducing a Failure, e.g. What does the failure look like?
 - Understanding Execution Behavior, e.g. What's statically related to this code?
 - □ Reasoning about Design, *e.g.* What is the purpose of this code?
 - □ Maintaining Awareness, e.g. What have my coworkers been doing?

Class Activity: Questions to Discuss

- What are the major contributions/points of the paper?
- What do you like about the paper/approach?
- What do you not like about the paper/approach?
- How does the paper/approach relate to Software Quality?

+ 1 extra question per group

Code Bubbles



Class Activity: Questions to Discuss

- What are the major contributions/points of the paper?
- What do you like about the paper/approach?
- What do you not like about the paper/approach?
- How does the paper/approach relate to Software Quality?

To Do:

- positive points about the paper/approach on green
- Critical/negative points on red
- Questions / further discussion points on yellow

Topic – Empirical Studies on Developers' Information Needs

Finding initial focus

points

20

5 kinds of questions.

For example: Which type represents this domain concept?

Building on those points 15 kinds of questions.

For example: Which types is this type a part of?



phone

Understanding a subgraph

13 kinds of questions.

For example: What is the behavior these types provide toaether?



Questions over groups of subgraphs

11 kinds of questions.

For example: What is the mapping between these UI types and these model types?



Code Questions





Information Needs (Collocated)

Topic – Tools and Environments for Development



Topic – Code Search

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Portfolio

Topic – Social Media and Awareness



Customized Awareness

Topic – Improving the Software Development Process with Developer Information



Using Task Context (DOI)

Topic – Distributed SoftwareDevelopment



Embodied Social Proxy

<image>

Summary

- Human aspects play an important role for a high software quality
- Research has looked into the information needs of the developer as well as how to support developers in their daily work more concretely