# Software Metrics In Use at JPL

Applications and Research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. ODC-Based Anomaly Analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>3. Predictive Cost/Quality Metrics</th>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
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</tr>
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**Presentation by Dr. Allen Nikora**

*Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology*

The work described in this paper was carried out at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology. This work is sponsored by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Office of Safety and Mission Assurance under the NASA Software Program led by the NASA Software IV&V Facility. This activity is managed locally at JPL through the Assurance Technology Program Office (ATPO).
1. ODC-Based Anomaly Analysis

Dr. Robyn Lutz (JPL/ISU) and Carmen Mikulski (JPL)
NASA Code Q Software Program Center Initiative UPN 323-08
Supported by JPL Assurance Technology Program Office

Goal: To reduce the number of safety-critical software anomalies that occur during flight by providing a quantitative analysis of previous anomalies as a foundation for process improvement

Analyzed 199 Incident/Surprise/Anomaly reports (ISAs)
- Software anomalies post-launch
- High criticality
- 7 spacecraft
- Institutional defect database
ODC-Based Anomaly Analysis

Approach

- Orthogonal Defect Classification (ODC) method
  - Developed at IBM; widely used by industry
  - Quantitative approach
  - Used here to detect patterns in anomaly data
- Adapted ODC categories to operational spacecraft software at JPL
  - Activity: what was taking place when anomaly occurred?
  - Trigger: what was the catalyst?
  - Target: what was fixed?
  - Type: what kind of fix was done?
- Collaborating with Mars Exploration Rover to experimentally extend to pre-launch testing
ODC-Based Anomaly Analysis

Example

- Sample Question: What is the typical signature of a post-launch critical software anomaly?
- Metrics:
  - Activity = Flight Operations
  - Trigger = Data Access/Delivery
  - Target = Information Development
  - Type = Procedures
- Example: Star Scanner anomaly
  - Activity = occurred during flight
  - Trigger = star scanner telemetry froze
  - Target = fix was new description of star calibration
  - Type = procedure written
ODC-Based Anomaly Analysis
Quantitative Analysis

Target Distribution

Count of Target

3% 2% 2%

16%

30%

23%

24%

Target

- Information Development
- Ground Software
- Flight Software
- None/Unknown
- Hardware
- Build Package
- Ground Resources

Drop More Series Fields Here

Software Metrics In Use at JPL-Applications and Research
ODC-Based Anomaly Analysis

**Benefits**

- User selects preferred representation (e.g., 2-D bar graph) and set of projects to view
- Data mines historical and current databases of anomaly and problem reports
- Uses metrics information to identify unexpected patterns and focus on problem areas
- Provides rapid quantitative foundation for process improvement
- Equips us with a methodology to continue to learn as projects and processes evolve
2. Assurance Optimization

Dr. Martin S. Feather (JPL)
NASA Code Q Software Program Center Initiative UPN 323-08
Supported by JPL Assurance Technology Program Office

Assurance activities have costs:

- Requirements inspections take skilled peoples' time
- Test-what-you-fly takes high-fidelity testbeds

Assurance activities have benefits:

- Requirements inspections may catch problems early, when it is inexpensive to fix them
- Test-what-you-fly may catch problems that would jeopardize the mission

Software Metrics In Use at JPL-Applications and Research
The selection of assurance activities such that:

For a given set of resources
(time, budget, personnel, test beds, mass, power, ...)
benefits are maximized

or

For a given level of benefits attainment
(science return goals; on-time and in-budget development, ...)
costs are minimized
| I | A model to calculate assurance costs & benefits - we use Dr. Steve Cornford's Defect Detection and Prevention (DDP) (http://ddptool.jpl.nasa.gov) |
| II | Optimization over the model - we use Menzies' TAR2 treatment learning system (http://www.tim.menzies.com) Also exploring use of genetic algorithms. |
| III | Data to populate the model - we populate with metrics from experience (when available) augmented with experts' best estimates |
Assurance Optimization

I. DDP Cost/Benefit Model

Benefits = \sum \text{attainment of requirements}

Costs = \sum \text{costs of selected assurance activities}

Model holds quantitative measures of:
How much each risk impacts each requirement, and
How much each assurance activity reduces each risk.

Risks are crucial intermediaries in the model -
requirements impacted by risks to differing extents
assurance activities mitigate risks to differing extents
Assurance Optimization

A Populated DDP Dataset

32 requirements, 69 risks, 99 assurance activities
352 non-zero quantitative requirement-risk links
440 non-zero quantitative assurance-risk links

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Assurance Optimization

II. Finding the Optimum

Each black point a randomly chosen selection of dataset's assurance activities. DDP used to calculate cost and benefit of each such selection. Each white point is an optimized selection of dataset’s assurance activities.

Tim Menzies’ TAR2 system used here for optimization. TAR2 identified 33 most critical decisions:
21 of them assurance activities to perform
12 of them assurance activities to not perform.
Risks:
How many defects, and of what kinds, are introduced during development? How serious are those defects?

Assurance activities:
How effective are assurance activities at defect prevention, and at detection & repair? How much do they cost?

**Metrics can help provide this data:**

- Historical, culled from past similar cases.
- Predictive, during current development.
- Monitoring, to track current development against predictions.

In the absence of metrics we use expert judgment. **We need your metrics!**
3. Predictive Cost/Quality Metrics

John Powell (JPL) & Dr. Jairus Hihn (JPL)
Supported by JPL's Software Quality Improvement Project

Software Project Characteristics

- Cost Drivers
- SLOC
- Defect Removal Profiles
- JPL Software Size Model

Parametric Cost Models
- COCOMO II
- SEER - SEM
- Price S

Quality Models
- SEER - SEM
- COQUALMO

S.W. Eng. Effort Decomposition

Cost Integrator

Total Effort
Residual Defects
Phase/Activity Cost
Total Dev. Cost

Figure 1: Overall Cost Quality Modeling Effort

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Predictive Cost/Quality Metrics

Input Data for Cost / Quality Models

- Cost Models
  - Size SLOC, Function Points
  - COCOMO II Cost Drivers and Scale Factors
  - Straight Forward Mapping to SEER-SEM

- Quality Models
  - Three Defect Removal Profile Levels
  - Cost Drivers from Cost Model Inputs
Predictive Cost/Quality Metrics

Model Outputs for Calibration

• Cost Models
  – Planned and Actual Effort
  – Suitably broken down by phase or activity or function etc… (Specific to organization needs)

• Quality Model
  – Tracked Software Defects
  – Categorized by point of introduction (Requirements, Design, Code)
Predictive Cost/Quality Metrics

**Cost / Quality Benefits**

- Consider a Navigation software component
  - If budget/effort is inaccurately estimated for NAV
    - Cost over runs may disrupt work on NAV as well as other software within the system such as fault protection etc... due to unplanned staffing and resource reallocations.
    - Budgetary Constraints due to overruns may cause project cancellation.
  - If defect density is inaccurately estimated
    - Insufficient or unnecessary resources may be allocated for QA, V&V, Testing etc... of navigation (or other) system software
    - Unexpected delays may occur due to larger than expected volume of defect repairs or late discovery of defects may jeopardize budget, schedule, delivery date and/or system functionality
4. Detailed Project Metrics

Helenann Kwong-Fu (JPL)
JPL Software Quality Assurance

A sampling of actual SQA metrics kept on a project
Detailed Project Metrics

Overall Project Software Metrics

- Planned (Cum)
- Actual (Cum)
- Additional (Cum)

Number of Demonstrated Capabilities (Cumulative)

Software Metrics In Use at JPL-Applications and Research
Detailed Project Metrics

Software Metrics By System

Number of Demonstrated Capability (Cumulative)

- To Completion
- Planned-To-Date
- Actual-To-Date
- Additional

California Institute of Technology

Software Metrics In Use at JPL-Applications and Research
Detailed Project Metrics
Project Integration & Test Problem Reports

Software Metrics In Use at JPL-Applications and Research
Detailed Project Metrics
Completion of Requirements and Tests

Phase I

Planned Phase II

#Req. Planned to complete
# Req. Passed (Actuals)
#Test Planned to complete
Total test/SE signed off (Actuals)

Software Metrics In Use at JPL-Applications and Research
## Detailed Project Metrics

### Implementation Process Risk Metrics

#### Team-by-Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEAM 1</th>
<th>TEAM 2</th>
<th>TEAM 3</th>
<th>TEAM 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>87% AI</td>
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<td>28</td>
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### As of 6/1999

#### Color Definitions
- **No Information**
- **Highest Concerns**
- **Sig Concerns**
- **Least Concerns**

#### Obj # Definitions
- **1X** SW Management
- **2X** SW Requirement and Design
- **3X** SW Dev. Std/Coding Conv. & Maint.
- **4X** SW Test Verification and Validation
- **5X** SW Development Tools
- **6X** SW Problem Reporting/Resolution
- **7X** SW Documentation
- **8X** SW Configuration Management
- **9X** SW Quality Control
- **10X** SW Fault Protection
- **11X** SW Safety

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref</th>
<th>Risk</th>
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Detailed Project Metrics
Implementation Process Risk Metrics
One Team’s Progress Over Time

Software Metrics In Use at JPL-Applications and Research
5. Formal Definition of Software Faults

- Investigators
  - Dr. John Munson, University of Idaho
  - Dr. Allen Nikora, JPL

NASA Code Q Software Program Center Initiative UPN 323-08
Supported by JPL Assurance Technology Program Office
Formal Definition of Software Faults

Motivation

- Developing software fault models depends on definition of what constitutes a fault
- Desired characteristics of measurements, measurement process
  - Repeatable, accurate count of faults
  - Measure at same level at which structural measurements are taken
    - Measure at module level (e.g., function, method)
  - Easily automated
Formal Definition of Software Faults

Current State of Affairs

- No existing definition of fault in measurable terms
  - IEEE Standards
  - ODC
  - Previous work (Annual Oregon Workshop on Software Metrics, May 11-13, 1997)
  - Frankl, Hamlet, Littlewood, Stringini (IEEE TSE, vol. 24, no. 8, August 1998)
Formal Definition of Software Faults

Approach

- Examine changes made in response to reported failures
- Base recognition/enumeration of software faults on the grammar of the software system's language
  - Faults found in executable, non-executable statements
- Fault measurement granularity in terms of tokens that have changed
Formal Definition of Software Faults

Approach (continued)

- Example 1
  - Original statement: \( a = b + c \times d; \)
  - Intended statement: \( a = b + c / d; \)
  - One token changed – “\( \times \)” \( \Rightarrow \) “/”
    - Coding error
  - Count number of faults as 1
Example 2

- Original statement: \( a = b + c \times d; \)
- Intended statement: \( a = b + (c \times x) + \sin(z); \)
- Substantial difference between first and second statements
  - Reflects design rather than coding problem
- Fault measurement method should reflect the degree of change
Consider each line of text in each version of the program as a bag of tokens
  • If a change spans multiple lines of code, all lines for the change are included in the same bag

Number of faults based on bag differences between
  • Version of program exhibiting failures
  • Version of program modified in response to failures

Use version control system to distinguish between
  • Changes due to repair and
  • Changes due to functionality enhancements and other non-repair changes
– Example 1

- Original statement: \( a = b + c; \)
  - \( B_1 = \{<a>, <\Rightarrow>, <b>, <+>, <c>\} \)
- Modified statement: \( a = b - c; \)
  - \( B_2 = \{<a>, <\Rightarrow>, <b>, <\Leftarrow>, <c>\} \)
- \( B_1 - B_2 = \{<\Rightarrow>, <\Leftarrow>\} \)
- \( |B_1| = |B_2|, |B_1 - B_2| = 2 \)
- One token has changed \( \Rightarrow 1 \) fault
Example 2

- Original statement: \( a = b - c \);
  - \( B_2 = \{<a>, <=, <b>, <->, <c>\} \)
- Modified statement: \( a = c - b \);
  - \( B_3 = \{<a>, <=, <c>, <->, <b>\} \)
- \( B_2 - B_3 = \{ \} \)
- \( |B_2| = |B_3|, |B_2 - B_3| = 0 \)
- 1 fault representing incorrect sequencing
Formal Definition of Software Faults

Approach (continued)

• Approach (cont’d)
  – Example 3
    • Original statement: \( a = b - c; \)
      – \( B_3 = \{<a>, <=>, <c>, <->, <b>\} \)
    • Modified statement: \( a = 1 + c - b; \)
      – \( B_4 = \{<a>, <=>, <1>, <+>, <c>, <->, <b>\} \)
    • \( B_3 - B_4 = \{<1>, <+>\} \)
    • \( |B_3| = 6, |B_4| = 8, |B_4| - |B_3| = 2 \)
    • 2 new tokens representing 2 faults
Formal Definition of Software Faults

Current Work

- Application to JPL software development effort
  - Research
  - Production

- Develop better models relating
  - Structural measurements of software evolution during development
  - Number and types of faults inserted