

NATIONAL SOFTWARE QUALITY EXPERIMENT A LESSON IN MEASUREMENT 1992-2002

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FEATURING

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NATIONAL SOFTWARE QUALITY EXPERIMENT A LESSON IN MEASUREMENT 1992-2001

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KEY WORDS

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NATIONAL SOFTWARE QUALITY EXPERIMENT A LESSON IN MEASUREMENT 1992-2001

PROLOGUE

The nation's prosperity is dependent on software. Increasingly software is depended on to deliver value in industries of all kinds. The competition to meet time to market demands has resulted in the practice of shipping software products with defects, and customers have learned to accept this. The quality shortfall in the trustworthiness of the nation's software systems is now imposing limits on the security of the nation's software infrastructure. Consequently the nation's software industry is slipping, and it is slipping behind other countries. The National Software Quality Experiment is riveting attention on software product quality and revealing the patterns of neglect in the nation's software infrastructure.

ABSTRACT

In 1992 the DOD Software Technology Strategy set the objective to reduce software problem rates by a factor of ten by the year 2000. The National Software Quality Experiment is being conducted¹ to benchmark the state of software product quality and to measure progress towards the national objective.

The National Software Quality Experiment is a mechanism for obtaining core samples of software product quality. A micro-level national database of product quality is being populated by a continuous stream of samples from industry, government, and military services. This national database provides the means to benchmark and measure progress towards the national software quality objective and contains data from 1992 through 2002.

The centerpiece of the experiment is the Software Inspection Lab where data collection procedures, product checklists, and participant behaviors are packaged for operational project use. The uniform application of the experiment and the collection of consistent measurements are guaranteed through rigorous training of each participant. Thousands of participants from dozens of organizations are populating the experiment database with thousands of defects of all types along with pertinent information needed to pinpoint their root causes.

To fully understand the findings of the National Software Quality Experiment, the measurements taken in the lab and the derived metrics are organized along several dimensions including year, software process maturity level, organization type, product type, programming language, global region, and industry type. These dimensions provide a framework for populating an interesting set of analysis bins with appropriate core samples of software product quality and for deriving the statistical process control limits of each metric.

¹ The National Software Quality Experiment is an entrepreneurial activity. @Copyright Don O'Neill, 2003 6

EXPERIMENT MOTIVATION AND ORGANIZATION

Executive Summary

The National Software Quality Experiment (NSQE) is riveting attention on software product quality and revealing the patterns of neglect in the nation's software infrastructure. In 1992 the DOD Software Technology Strategy set the objective to reduce software problem rates by a factor of ten by the year 2000. The National Software Quality Experiment is being conducted to benchmark the state of software product quality and to measure progress towards the national objective.

A micro-level national database of product quality is being populated by a continuous stream of samples from industry, government, and military services. Over three thousand participants from over sixty organizations have inspected over a million lines of code and populated the experiment database with nearly fifteen thousand defects of all types along with pertinent information needed to pinpoint their root causes.

The results of the NSQE show no systematic movement towards fulfilling the national goal. The quality goal has not been met and was missed by a wide margin. Instead of a factor of ten reduction, problem rates are being pushed higher:

- With the emphasis on quicker, better, and cheaper.
- With the trend towards code and upload practice as the life cycle model.
- With the struggle to improve software process maturity and master the management track practices found in level 2 of the Software Capability Maturity Model, an obstacle to many [Paulk 95].
- With the downsizing of middle management and senior technical staff who often held the line on product quality through push back.

These NSQE metrics reveal patterns of neglect in the nation's software infrastructure. With 2.46 major defects per thousand lines of code and a major defect detected every 72.24 minutes of preparation effort, software organizations should treat these findings as a wakeup call. Nearly 41% of all defects are related to documentation particularly the lack of traceability from code to requirements. In fact, many software systems have no requirements baseline; the code simply does what the code does. Over 23% of all defects are related to compliance with programming standards and style.

Hidden in the NSQE metrics are clues and pointers to better practice. For example:

- The software inspection teams that look harder for defects are the ones that find more. Looking harder is accomplished by reducing the size of the artifacts inspected and increasing preparation effort.
- Program size matters. Defect density decreases with increasing size... to a point. Starting, finishing, and fitting in are all more error prone than the body of the program which gives it size.
- The data suggests that increased software process maturity results in increased defect detection, with the result perhaps being lower defect leakage into the field.
- In addition the data suggests that the organization's neglect of its software process exceeds the poor workmanship of individual programmers as the source of errors. Documentation and standards defect types account for nearly two-thirds of all defects, and these are the responsibility of the organization and its process.

W. Edwards Deming taught us that there is no substitute for profound knowledge. We know that software quality is one of the fault lines of the software crisis. It is an important leading indicator of global competitiveness. The National Software Quality Experiment

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NSQE

provides a framework for obtaining a profound knowledge of software quality on the project, within the organization, and across the nation. This knowledge will contribute to the understanding of the quality fault line.

Projects seek to achieve predictable performance. Organizations build on project predictability and seek to be competitive. The nation builds on organizational competitiveness in achieving prosperity. Today we find software as a key integrating element in every industry. If projects do not achieve predictable performance and if organizations are not competitive, the prosperity of the nation may be impacted.

Mr. Dooley² said, "It ain't what you don't know that hurts you. It's what you know that ain't so." Many managers make decisions based on hearsay or myth. The National Software Quality Experiment is helping organizations to substitute facts for myths. For example, consider the question, "Which organizations detect more defects in software inspections, level 1, level 2, or level 3?" The answer is found in the measured results of the National Software Software Quality Experiment.

Lord Kelvin said it best, "When you can measure what you are speaking about and express it in numbers, you know something about it; when you can not measure it... your knowledge is meager and unsatisfactory." When it comes to software which must be bit-perfect, Lord Kelvin's hard edged conclusion is especially warranted.

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "The years teach us things the days never knew." The National Software Quality Experiment has operated for the past decade and is committed to run through the year 2000. True to Emerson's adage, interesting trends are beginning to reveal themselves. These trends may help us to better understand the practice of software engineering.

Robert McNamara said during the Vietnam War, "If you don't watch the periphery, it will soon become the center." The National Software Quality Experiment provides the means to keep an eye on the periphery... and the center of software product quality.

 ² Mr. Dooley was a turn of the century newspaper man in Chicago
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OVERVIEW

The National Software Quality Experiment is doing more measurement at the national level than many organizations are doing at the project level! One observer said, *"All we do here is talk about it; you are actually doing it."*³ Participants are attracted to the experiment as a place where they can calibrate their software quality against appropriately selected industry core samples. Here they can jump-start the organization's quality measurement program on the shoulders of uniform Software Inspection Lab procedures. These procedures are operationally packaged for project use and include well defined processes, industrial strength product checklists, participant roles and behaviors, and standard forms and reports.

The National Software Quality Experiment provides the framework to pose important quality questions. Its micro-level national quality database provides the measurements to answer them. Similarly, the extent of certain common risks can be quantified. As a participant in the experiment, an organization can characterize the effectiveness of its software quality process. At the industry level, progress towards the national software quality objective can be benchmarked.

Participants in the experiment benefit in several ways. They are able to characterize the maturity of their software quality process. With this understanding, they are able to establish goals for improving the process and to set priorities for immediate action. Beyond that, these organizations are able to promote a vision for excellence based on perfection not management slogans in their software products and to calibrate their progress towards the national software quality goal.

MOTIVATION

The motivation for the National Software Quality Experiment is found in my industry mission statement for strategic software improvement which includes the following:

- 1. To obtain the deepest possible understanding of software engineering in all its dimensions
- 2. To arrive at a realistic expectation for its application at every level

3. To communicate this knowledge and expectation to both producers and

consumers

Software engineering has a multiplicity of dimensions. These include engineering, management, operations, product, process, business, and human resources to name several. The application of software engineering can be viewed at various levels including the nation, industry, the organization, the project, and the individual practitioner. The experiment and its micro-level national database is structured to service particular needs at all these levels and in all these dimensions.

The Department of Defense Software Technology Strategy was drafted for the Director of Defense Research and Engineering in December 1991 [DOD STS 91]. Three important national objectives were established to be achieved by the year 2000:

- 1. Reduce equivalent software life-cycle costs by a factor of two
- 2. Reduce software problem rates by a factor of ten
- 3. Achieve new levels of mission capability and interoperability via software

Every software organization should treat the national objective to improve software product quality by a factor of ten as a wake-up call. Are organizations planning to reduce software problem rates by a factor of ten? Do they know what these rates are now? Industry

³ Comment made by participant in National Software Quality Experiment Seminar in 1993 @Copyright Don O'Neill, 2003 9

problem rates ranged from 1 to 100 defects per thousand lines of source code inserted and 1 to 10 defects per thousand lines of source code fielded. Meeting the objective would shift the range to .1 to 10 defects per thousand lines of source code inserted and .01 to 1 fielded.

MEASUREMENT BEST PRACTICE

The strategy for obtaining the deepest possible understanding of software in an application domain is strongly determined by the experimental nature of software and the need to discover information. However, software engineers and computer scientists need to conduct more experimentation using systematic and repeatable processes and need to perform the collection and analysis of data in the confirmation of theory and hypotheses [Tichy 98]. Field studies quantifying software practice are rare. In 612 articles in the software literature during 1985-1995, only seven (7) were classified as field study. Half were classified as assertions, lessons learned, and project monitoring; another third employed no experimentation or were not applicable [Zelkowitz 98].

Although measurement is needed to derive effective policy governing acquisition, development, and operations, there is not yet an industry consensus on the wisdom of creating a national database for software engineering. The issue centers on the use of the data, not on its collection. The worry is that the industry is not ready to use the database appropriately. Clearly the industry can learn to use the database appropriately once it there are national goals set for software engineering, there must also be a exists. If national measurement program and database to track progress and refine goals. Carnegie Mellon University's Software Engineering Institute produced "A Concept Study for a National Software Engineering Database" in July 1992 [Van Verth 92]. The study points out that there are many users for such a database, but few suppliers. The study offers the following observations and advice on establishing a national database:

- 1. Wide variance may exist in the collection process
- 2. Common data definitions are needed
- 3. Goals and questions should precede data collection
- 4. Confidentiality of the data must be protected

In designing, implementing, and operating the National Software Quality Experiment, it is recognized that the prescription for achieving lasting value in measurement depends on the successful integration of measurement concepts, operationally defined and packaged processes, effective technology transition and adoption including the training of participants and the dissemination of results, and hands-on oversight of the experiment. The prescription for lasting value in measurement revolves around four driving measurement concepts. First, measurement must be aligned with business needs. Second, metrics must be carefully pinpointed and rigorously defined. Third, measurement activities must be built into the normal operation of the organization. Finally, extraordinary steps must be applied to obtain consistency and uniformity in data collection.

Finally, Dr. Vic Basili of the University Maryland provides the following important guidelines on measurement [Wallace 97], [Basili 02]: 1. Establish the goals of the data collection

- 2. Develop a list of questions of interest
- 3. Establish data categories
- 4. Design and test the data collection form
- 5. Analyze data

While there are numerous problems associated with industrial software measurement, two

problems deserve mention here. One of the difficulties in measurement is that while the design and planning of a measurement program or experiment may be straightforward, its implementation can be fraught with difficulties. An important consideration is the ease of availability of the data to be collected. When the data is easily accessible as a by product of an essential activity within the normal operation of the organization, measurements can be greatly facilitated. When the data is difficult to obtain or requires extra steps, the measurement program may be threatened at the outset. For example, collecting inspection data is straightforward, collecting failure data from testing is more difficult, and collecting failure data from the field is increasingly more difficult. A second important difficulty is sustaining a persistent data collection long enough for interesting trends to reveal themselves. With the fluctuating commitment to measurement as business needs change and new leaders enter the scene, sustaining a measurement program for ten years is a challenge.

EXPERIMENTAL NATURE OF SOFTWARE

Large scale software development is research in the experimental or laboratory sense operating within a process of experimentation where the hypotheses are organized around function, form, and fit and the inherent uncertainty in specifying, designing, and developing software that will operate harmoniously on the computing platforms intended for the benefit of expected users and their enterprises. The process of experimentation is based on the nature of the life cycle activities; their organization for iteration, prototyping, and incremental development; and the strategies for validating and verifying the artifacts they produce.

Software development involves the discovery of information that is technological in nature, in particular, performance in terms of execution traces, path lengths, user response times, and integration effects both vertical and horizontal. This critical information permits the selection of the best mix of algorithms and data structures for a particular software component and the software system as a whole.

In developing large scale software systems, risk and uncertainty occur when the information available to the project team is insufficient to plan or carry out fully the next step(s) in the development process and the design and programming of the software system. These risks stem from technical choices associated with the function, form, and fit of the software product. And so function, form, and fit become the hypotheses in the process of experimentation used to discover technological information needed to progress from one life cycle activity to another:

- Function is determined through understanding the application domain and interaction with users and the activities of requirements elicitation and determination where the goal is to do the right job. Not all capabilities and features needed to do the right job are known ahead of time. After the start of the project, function may be increased by important new capabilities and features.
- Form is determined by the application domain architecture and its templates, screens layouts, and data models organized to house the capabilities and features that comprise the function in a way that fits the constraints of computer resources.
- Fit is determined by the supply of computer resource timing and capacity and the demand in the load imposed by the use of the capabilities and features of the software system and their resultant execution traces, path lengths, memory utilization, system resource queues, and integration effects. The behavior of the system is influenced by the interaction of this supply and demand and is evidenced by the timeliness of user response times. Doing the job right requires obtaining the best fit which is a complex activity requiring specialized tools capable of identifying integration bottlenecks that can then be reprogrammed to utilize less time or memory.



EXPERIMENT DESIGN

Experienced software practitioners and managers understand that software development is a process of experimentation involving the continuous discovery of technical information associated with the hypotheses of function, form, and fit of the software product as it moves through the requirements, specification, design, code, test, and maintenance activities of the Reasoning about, understanding, and predicting the behavior of defects life cvcle. experienced at different stages is the basis for managing software risk and uncertainty.

Several indicators characterize the organization capability to perform effective experimentation. When these indicators are present and embedded in risk management practice, the enterprise is a learning organization. These indicators include setting goals; defining, collecting, and analyzing measurement and metrics; maintaining a repository of providing feedback on results to participants and stake holders; results: packaging experiment artifacts for consistent repetition; and combining multiple experiments.

The design of an experiment includes the hypothesis and guestions to be answered, factors that characterize and distinguish the context or domain of study, response variables in the form of measurements and derived metrics, and results that correspond to the hypothesis and address the questions.

- Some hypotheses and questions may be known early; others may be invented as results and studies dictate and suggest.
- Factors define or characterize analysis bins individually or in combination.
- Response variables are the measurements and metrics associated with Software Inspection Lab Operations and defect type distributions.

 The results are the association of the response variables and their measurements and @Copyright Don O'Neill, 2003 12

NSQE

metrics to the hypotheses and questions and the judgments that are made.

As a software manager on several large scale software projects, there were many questions to which I sought answers. Some of these questions are asked and answered in the experiment including:

- 1. To what extent is there a continuing stream of requirements changes?
- 2. What are the leading types of errors?
- 3. Are errors traced to people or process?
- 4. Is a standard development process followed?
- 5. To what extent are wrong software functions being developed?
- 6. To what extent are there shortfalls in real time performance?
- 7. Is gold plating a problem?

Other questions of interest are not answered in the experiment. For example:

1. What types of defects are present in fielded software products?

2. To what extent do users encounter defects in fielded software products? While a study focusing on delivered defects would be useful and interesting, this is beyond the scope of the National Software Experiment which depends solely on the engine of software inspections for its data collection and does not utilize defect data from testing or field experience.

NATURE AND ROLE OF THE EXPERIMENT

Experiment is defined as, "*A test made to demonstrate a known truth, to determine the validity of a hypothesis*" [AHDEL 76]. The DOD Software Technology Strategy has provided the basis for the hypothesis that should be tested for validity: "That software problem rates shall be reduced by a factor of ten by the year 2000".

A process of experimentation involves alternatives and choices. Over time, experiment findings are reported and may be acted upon, software practice improvements may be made, and the experiment may become closed loop.

In the practice of software engineering, managers are guided more by myth than by measurement. The experiment provides the framework for measuring critical aspects of software product quality practice. The framework supplies the ingredients needed to install a uniform and consistent measurement methodology. These are thoroughly described in the Software Inspections Mechanism. The predictability of the measurements taken in conducting the experiment provides the basis for assessing the validity of the hypothesis. This is discussed in Experiment Results.

Some of the questions asked and answered in the experiment are:

- 1. To what extent is there a continuing stream of requirements changes?
 - 2. What are the leading types of errors?
 - 3. Are errors traced to people or process?
 - 4. Is a standard development process followed?
 - 5. To what extent are wrong software functions being developed?
 - 6. To what extent are there shortfalls in real time performance?
 - 7. Is gold plating a problem?

Software inspections are an essential ingredient in fact-based software management. They utilize a reasoning process for conducting a fine-grained, deep-probing evaluation. When combined with automation-based quick-look evaluations, the best balance between efficiency and insight can be obtained. Once installed in the organization, the software

inspection process yields core samples of software product quality. These can be used to benchmark problem rates by defect type among major product areas within the organization. With the benchmark measurements in place, the software inspections process provides a stable, uniform, and persistent mechanism for measuring improvement progress toward the software product goals of the organization.

The National Software Quality Experiment is an ambitious program to define, create, and mange a National Software Engineering Database of software product quality core samples. This micro-level national database is being populated using data collection procedures packaged for operation in the Software Inspection Lab. These core samples of software problem rates provide the foundation to benchmark and measure progress towards the national software quality objective. The comprehensive structure and rigorous definition of the experiment are needed to provide a stable and persistent mechanism for measuring progress to the year 2000 objective. The experiment itself is a lesson in measurement.

Bridging the gap of prediction practice among defects, faults, and failures remains an unsolved problem. Defects are detected early using software inspections as exit criteria for activities in the software life cycle. Faults are detected later through exercise during integration and system test. Failures occur even later during system operation. Yet there is no accepted method for using defect data available early to predict faults and failures that occur later.

The National Software Quality Experiment with its Software Inspection Lab and its repository of core samples uses defect detection to derive metrics capable of calibrating defect leakage prediction and defect leakage type distribution. The question is, "To what extent are Software Engineering Error Prediction Models capable of utilizing defect leakage prediction and defect leakage type distribution to predict faults and failures?" These models include both error count models and time between models.

Verification of Method and Data

The software inspections method used to collect the NSQE data is detailed in the Wiley Publishing Encyclopedia of Software Engineering [O'Neill 02]. The verification of methods used, data collected, results analyzed is accomplished in he following ways:

1. I have attended every inspection session included in the experiment.

2. Organizations utilize the upper and lower control limits derived from the NSQE metrics in their software inspection operations on the factory floor to guide and control the inspections practice.

3. Analysis results and reports are presented at various professional meetings and conferences and in professional journals. The most recent example is the "Return on Investment Using Software Inspections" study presented at the 11th ICSQ in Pittsburgh just this week [O'Neill 01] and the

4. The National Software Quality Experiment results were shared with the research community associated with the Center for Empirically based Software Engineering (CeBASE).

NSQE Seminar History

The results of the National Software Quality Experiment have been reported to industry in dozens of seminars over the past decade. The venues used for disseminating these results have included the Association for Software Quality Control, the Association for Software Quality, the International Conference of Software Quality, the Software

Technology Conference, the Quality Week Conference, the Quality Week Europe Conference, the NASA Software Engineer Workshop, the International Conference on Software Process Improvement, the Software Developer's Conference, and many Software Process Improvement Network sessions.

QAAM '93 Process Conference '94 ASQC International '94 ICSQ International '94 STC '95 STC '96 QW '97 **QWE '97 NRC '98** HRSPIN '98 '98 NASA SEW CrossTalk. 12/98- Web version AAQ '99 (Backup) ISACC'99 SSQ 11/99 ASQ '00 STC '00 DC SPIN '00 NJ SPIN '00 Greater B'more SPIN '01 11th ICSQ Software Education Associates Ltd. '02 Software Education Associates Ltd. '02 1st ICSPI, '02 New Jersey SPI Conference, '03

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CeBASE Collaboration

The National Software Quality Experiment results were shared with the research community associated with the Center for Empirically based Software Engineering (CeBASE). This is an National Science Foundation (NSF) sponsored initiative consisting of the University of Maryland, University of Southern California, Fraunhofer Center Maryland, University of Nebraska Lincoln, Mississippi State University.

CeBASE seeks to achieve an empirically based process and experience base that contains validated guidelines for selecting techniques and models. One focus of this research is defect reduction techniques. CeBASE is co-directed by Dr. Victor R. Basili and Dr. Barry Boehm who jointly authored the article on the ten questions on software defects that formed the basis for the study [Basili/Boehm 01]. The CeBASE web site (http://www.cebase.org) contains resources for empirical researchers and practitioners, such as tools, data, reports and experimental results.

Is the Fundamental Thesis of the Paper Flawed?

A reviewer of the paper asserted that the fundamental thesis of the paper was flawed. I would like to air the reviewer's concern and my response to it because it may help others to avoid the same misunderstanding. Here is what the reviewer said, "The fundamental thesis of the paper that there is a national quality objective and progress towards achieving that

objective can be tracked via results from inspection training is flawed. A DOD objective is not a national objective. By definition training is provided to people who are unfamiliar with a skill, so it is unreasonable to assume that improvement could be detected through results of subsequent training sessions. The paper could be useful as a benchmark of inspection process performance and should be re-focused in that direction." The 1992 DOD objective, of course, is to reduce software problem by a factor of ten by the year 2000.

In response, I must acknowledge that a DOD objective is not be a national objective. When it comes to software there is no national software policy, there is no national software authority, there are no national software goals, and in fact there is even an absence of consensus among the leaders of profession on the principles of software engineering and its university curriculum. Consequently when it comes to software, a DOD objective is the closest thing to a national objective. But in the interest of correctness, I have conceded to the use of "DOD objective" instead of "national objective".

Now to respond to the substance of the reviewer's concern which represents a basic misunderstanding of what is being measured and what is doing the measurement, the improvement being tracked by the National Software Quality Experiment is software product engineering improvement, not improvement in the practice of software inspections. Defects are inserted in the practice of software product engineering; defects are detected in the practice of software inspections. Therefore, it is the hoped for improvement in software product engineering practice that is being measured, and it is software inspections practice that is the measurement mechanism.

The widespread collection of core samples from over sixty organizations spanning over a decade is expected to reveal industry improvement as evidenced by fewer defects inserted, using the practice of software product engineering. If fewer defects are inserted, then fewer defects would be detected during software inspections assuming that a uniform process for software inspections [O'Neill 88] is followed and that participants received the same training [O'Neill 89]. This commonality in software inspections practice is in fact true. The same industrial strength software inspections process [O'Neill 02] and the same training program with the same instructor were carried out for over a decade. Exactly 157 course sessions trained over 3,308 participants who conducted 3,040 software inspection sessions producing the data for the experiment. However, the hoped for order of magnitude reduction in problems from software product engineering practice did not materialize. Nevertheless, the software inspections process metrics collected and analyzed in the National Software Quality Experiment are providing a useful performance benchmark for those engaged in software inspections practice.

EXPERIMENT PARTICIPANTS



The participants of the National Software Quality Experiment have been trained in the Software Inspections Course and Lab [O'Neill 89]. Experiment results are drawn from these Inspection Lab sessions. Over fifty participating organizations span government, DOD industry, and commercial sectors and represent a wide range of application domains and product types. The industry types represented include telecommunications, transportation, financial, manufacturing, medical systems, utilities and energy, defense, and e-commerce.

 Accounting, personnel, administration Administrative and management decision support Airline operations support Aircraft jet engine diagnostics, logistics, and maintenance Air travel reservations Artillery fire control system Avionics flight on-board control CIO Support Control devices for avionics applications Credit card application Department of State embassy support e-commerce 	 Factory line support Finance and accounting services Global positioning system user sets Government payment system Information and accounting Insurance and medical information Insurance brokering International banking Joint Chiefs of Staff support Medical devices and diagnostics Medical information system Naval surface weapons system Pre and post flight space application Securities trading
e-commerce	Securities trading
Electronic warfare	Stock market back office operations
 Energy operations management 	 Telecommunications
FAA communications	 Small tool manufacturing



The participants and their applications are listed below:

- A Communications
- B Finance, personnel, administration
- C Command and control center
- D Pre and post flight space application
- E Command and control center
- F Avionics flight on-board control system
- G Administrative and management decision support
- H Medical information system
- I Global Positioning System user set
- J Joint Chiefs of Staff support
- K Avionics flight on-board control system
- L Artillery fire control system
- M Surface ship command and control
- N FAA communications
- O Communication command and control
- P Naval surface weapons system
- Q Control devices for avionics applications
- R Control devices for commercial applications
- S Aircraft jet engine diagnostics and maintenance
- T Financial services
- U Insurance and medical information systems
- V Government accounting

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7	EAA Air traffic control
~	Financial services
	Naval surface weapons system
	International banking
	Credit card application
	Department of State embassy s
AG	Eactory line support
AH-AJ	Credit card application
AK	Factory line support
AL	Electronic warfare
AM	Medical diagnostics
AN	Medical devices
AP	Financial systems
AQ	Information and accounting
AR	Manufacturing
AS	International banking
AT	Insurance brokering
AU	Air travel reservations
AV	Finance and accounting services
AW	International banking
AX	Securities trading
AY	Airline operations support
AZ	e-commerce
BA	CIO support
BB	Energy operations management
BC	Information Systems
BD	Small tool manufacturing
BE	FAA communications
BF	Government payment system

SEPARATING SIGNAL FROM NOISE

While the National Software Quality Experiment faithfully conforms to the well defined Software Inspections Process [O'Neill 02] which has achieved stability through long term use, the Software Product Engineering (SPE) processes [Paulk 95] that produce the artifacts being inspected may not be stable and may lack faithful conformance.

The variation in process performance includes both process noise and process anomalies. The degree to which the SPE processes are stable and conforming is the degree to which process noise is minimized [SEI 97].

ORGANIZATION OF FINDINGS

The findings of the National Software Quality Experiment are organized along several dimensions including year, software process maturity level, organization type, product type, programming language, and global region. These dimensions provide a framework for populating an interesting set of analysis bins with appropriate core samples of software product quality.

National Software Experiment Participants

SOFTWARE INSPECTIONS MECHANISM

Setting the Standard of Excellence

The industry continues to evolve the definition of quality and the indicators of a mature quality process. Early on, conformance to requirements was recognized as an important quality characteristic. The software product must satisfy every "shall" in the requirements document. To this has been added the characteristic of defect-free [Joyce 89]. A software product is considered defect-free when it attains Six Sigma quality, which is three to four errors per million opportunities to fail. Conformance to requirements and defect-free characteristics are necessary but not sufficient conditions. More is needed.

Customer satisfaction is the quality characteristic that now occupies center stage. Customer surveys and feedback cover all aspects of the software product including engineering, construction, operations, and support. To this is being added the characteristic of value. Value is applying the best capability of the organization to what the customer needs most. Where the organization's strategic planning process operates to continue to align its capabilities with customer needs, the maturity of its quality process is ranked high.

Measuring the quality of an evolving software product can be accomplished by conducting strict and close examinations of its requirements, specification, architecture, design, code, and test artifacts. The quality characteristics measured using this software inspection mechanism include conformance to requirements and defect detection and leakage among baseline artifacts. Other mechanisms are needed to measure customer satisfaction and value characteristics.

In producing software systems that meet customer needs, it is necessary to do the right job and to do the job right. Software inspections address the issues of construction and workmanship needed to do the job right. This is done by setting the standard of excellence and then disciplining the organization to meet the standard set. Simply setting the standard changes the calculus of software product quality. The attention of the organization's practitioners, project manager, and senior managers will be riveted on software product quality.

Software inspections practice employs the strongly preferred indicators from the standard of excellence spanning completeness, correctness, style, rules of construction, and multiple views.

- Completeness is based on traceability among the requirements, specifications, designs, code, and test procedures.
- Correctness is based on reasoning about programs through the use of informal verification and correctness questions derived from the prime constructs of structured programming, their composite use in proper programs, and the disciplined data structures they manipulate [Linger 79].
- Style is based on project specified style guidance for block structuring, naming conventions, commentary, alignment, and templates for repeating patterns.
- Rules of construction are based on the software architecture and the specific protocols, templates, and conventions used to carry it out.
- Multiple views are based on the various perspectives required to be reflected in the product including the programmer, tester, user, computer resource loading as well as

safety, security, and the earlier year 2000 problem [Basili 96].

VALUE OF SOFTWARE INSPECTIONS

Software inspections⁴ provide an immediate and concrete step that every organization can take to improve its process maturity. They provide a powerful mechanism for improving software product quality by detecting and correcting defects early and preventing their reoccurrence. Software inspections accomplish this by conducting close and strict examinations of software requirements, specification, design, code, and test artifacts. They provide a vantage point for fact based software management, one not occupied by designers, programmers, and testers.

Organizations are increasingly using software inspections as an integral process in the development of quality software. The installation of a software inspections process initially results in detecting 50% of the inserted errors. As an organization acquires skill and refines its process, the detection rate increases to 60-90% within eighteen months. The cost to correct defects found in testing greatly exceeds the correction cost following an inspection. In fact, IBM Rochester, winner of the Malcolm Baldrige Award, reported that defects leaking from code to test cost nine times more to detect and correct, and defects leaking from test to the field cost thirteen times more [Lindner 91]. Consequently, the application of an industrial strength software inspections process reduces development costs, shortens delivery schedules, and promotes higher reliability of operational software products in the field.

The measurement mechanism used in the National Software Quality Experiment adapts and packages the defined processes, product checklists, participant behaviors, defect type definitions, and reports found in software inspections into an integrated operation. The result is a measurement tool that can be applied uniformly and consistently using participants from projects trained for their roles in the Software Inspection Lab.

An example may help illustrate why a leaked defect costs more. A code defect that leaks into testing may require multiple test executions to confirm the error and additional executions to obtain debug information. Once a leaked defect has been detected, the producing programmer must put aside the task at hand, refocus attention on correcting the defect and confirming the correction, and then return to the task at hand. The corrected artifact must then be reinserted into the software product engineering or product release pipeline [O'Neill 03].

ELEMENTS OF SOFTWARE INSPECTIONS

The elements of the Software Inspections Process include a structured review process, defined roles of participants, system of checklists, and forms and reports [O'Neill 02]. These are fully described in the article on "Peer Reviews" found in the Encyclopedia of Software Engineering Second Edition, John Wiley &Sons, Inc., January 2002. This article can be viewed at http://members.aol.com/ONeillDon/nsqe-assessment.html.

- A structured review process is a systematic procedure integrated with the activities of the life cycle model selected. The process is composed of planning, preparation, entry criteria, conduct, exit criteria, reporting, and follow up [Fagan 76], [Gilb 93].
- The role of each participant in the structured review process is defined. These roles include the moderator, producer, reader, recorder, reviewer, and manager. Each role is characterized by particular skills and behaviors [Freedman 90]

 ⁴ Software inspections were pioneered by Michael Fagan at IBM in the 1970's
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- A system of checklists govern each step of the structured review process and the review of the product itself, objective by objective. Process checklists are used as a guide for each activity of the structured review process. Product checklists house the strongly preferred indicators that set the standard of excellence for the organization's software products [O'Neill 88].
- Forms and reports provide a uniformity in recording issues at all software inspections, reporting the results to management, and building a data base useful in process management. Data collection utilizes three recording instruments: Inspection Record, Inspection Reporting Form, and Report Summary Form. [Ebenau 94].

STRUCTURED REVIEW PROCESS

Planning is done by management early in the project. Planning identifies the life cycle activities and product artifacts including top level designs, detailed designs, and code to be inspected. The schedule for each software inspection is recorded in the project's software plan. A moderator is assigned to each software inspection, and moderator training is scheduled as necessary.

Preparation is done by the moderator a few weeks before the inspection. The readiness of the product for inspection is assessed. The moderator obtains the reader, recorder, and reviewers and instructs them on their roles. The moderator ascertains the status of the baseline change activity. The overview session is conducted and the review materials are distributed to all participants.

Entry Criteria are checked by the moderator on the day of the review. Before the software inspection begins, the moderator must be certain that the product is ready to be inspected and that the participants are ready to inspect it. The moderator verifies that trained and briefed participants are in place that all participants have received the product and checklists. The recorder notes the preparation time spent by each participant. Finally any changes to the baseline are identified. Where the entry criteria are not met satisfactorily, the moderator may reschedule the inspection.

The inspection is **conducted** by the moderator, recorder, producer, reader, and reviewers; the manager and the consumer do not attend. Some key principles govern participant behavior during the inspection conduct:

- 1. The product is reviewed, not the person.
- 2. The inspection is limited to periods of peak concentration, usually 2-4 hours.
- 3. Issues are identified, not proposed solutions.

Each product component is inspected using each checklist. Participants have prepared for the inspection. Each participant in turn is asked whether there is an issue for the product component and checklist now before the group. If so, the issue is stated and recorded. The producer may wish to obtain clarification of the issue at the time it is raised, but there is no need for the producer to defend or even explain the approach taken. The producer will have the opportunity to resolve the issue during the fillip activity.

Exit Criteria are checked by the moderator at the close of the inspection. The moderator verifies that all product components and checklists have been reviewed. Reviewers are asked if there are any additional issues to be raised. The recorder then reads all the issues raised. The producer is given the opportunity to make any closing comments. This concludes the participation of the reader and reviewers.

The moderator, with the help of the recorder, **reports** the results to management within a week or so. This report provides a review summary, statistics on the inspection process, key issues, and fillip recommendations. This concludes the participation of the moderator and recorder.

The **followup** rework on the product is performed by the producer. The process is managed by the manager in the usual way.

DEFINED ROLES OF PARTICIPANTS

The **manager** is active in the planning, preparation, reporting, and fillip activities. In planning, the manager identifies and schedules all software inspections in the project's software plan. The manager identifies resource needs and allocates them to each inspection. Moderators are assigned, and moderator training is arranged. The manager does not attend the conduct activity. After the software inspection is conducted, the manager receives the report and oversees any fillip.

The **producer** is active during the preparation, entry criteria, conduct, exit criteria, and fillip activities. The producer is responsible for creating the materials to be inspected. The producer attends the inspection as a reviewer and is expected to raise

issues. From time to time the producer may offer a technical explanation of the product. The producer expects criticism of the product but does not offer any defense as issues are raised. Where an issue is surfaced that is not understood by the producer, a dialogue may be needed to obtain clarification. At the conclusion of the conduct activity, the producer is afforded the opportunity to comment on the inspection. The producer performs the fillip actions resulting from the inspection.

The **moderator** is the keystone of the software inspection process and is active in the preparation, entry criteria, conduct, exit criteria, and reporting activities. The moderator directs the activities of the software inspection. The moderator briefs all participants of the inspection on their roles in the structured review process and administers the preparation activity including an overview meeting. The moderator directs the entry criteria, conduct, and exit criteria activities, facilitating interaction among the participants. The moderator intervenes as little as possible but as much as necessary to ensure an effective and efficient software inspection. A skillful moderator recognizes the needs of the various participants and restrains any intervention until it is clearly required. Moderators who limit intervention enhance the feeling of responsibility of each participant and give real meaning to the term "peer review". The moderator collaborates with the recorder in preparing the report

The **recorder** is active in the preparation, entry criteria, conduct, exit criteria, and reporting activities. During the entry criteria activity the recorder notes the preparation time of each participant. The recorder notes all issues and concerns raised by the participants of the inspection. For each issue, the recorder captures a description of the issue, the location in the product, the checklist and entry that prompted the issue, and other defect and resolution attributes. The role of recorder is to be transparent to the process of conducting the inspection in recording all issues completely and accurately. This requires a high degree of judgment and technical knowledge.

The **reader** is active in the preparation, entry criteria, conduct, and exit criteria activities. Where necessary, the reader may read parts of the the product aloud to the other participants of the inspection. This permits the producer to assume a low profile and

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minimizes the need for producer-reviewer interaction, thereby promoting ego less programming. The reader helps the group to focus attention on the relevant parts of the product. The reader is not expected to read line by line. This may be necessary at times when difficulties are encountered in a section of the product artifact. The reader may instead direct attention to a program unit or a construct.

The **reviewers** are active in the preparation, entry criteria, conduct, and exit criteria activities. A reviewer is expected to spend sufficient time preparing and to raise issues and concerns about the product. Reviewers accept the discipline imposed by the round robin, checklist structure of the inspection. In return for accepting these responsibilities and disciplines, reviewers are assured of an uninterrupted opportunity to raise issues.

SYSTEM OF CHECKLISTS

Completeness is based on traceability among the requirements, specification, design, code, and test artifacts. Completeness analysis reveals what predecessor artifact sections have not been satisfied as well as the inclusion of extra fragments.

1. Has traceability been assessed?

2. Have all predecessor requirements been accounted for?

3. Were any product fragments revealed not to have traceability to the predecessor requirements?

Correctness is based on reasoning about programs through the use of informal verification and correctness questions derived from the prime constructs of structured programming and their composite use in proper programs. Input domain and output range are analyzed for all legal values and all possible values. Adherence to project specific disciplined data structures is analyzed.

- 1. Is the function commentary satisfied?
- 2. Does the loop terminate?
- 3. Is a one time loop acceptable?
- 4. Is the control variable modified in the loop?
- 5. Is the loop initialized and terminated properly?
- 6. Is the domain partitioned exclusively and exhaustively?
- 7. Does the input domain span all legal values?

Style is based on project specified style guidance based on block structured templates. Semantics of the design and code are analyzed for correspondence to the semantics used in the requirements, specifications, and design. Naming conventions are checked for consistency of use; and commentary, alignment, upper/lower case, and highlighting use are checked.

- 1. Are style conventions for block structuring followed?
- 2. Are naming conventions followed?
- 3. Do the semantics of the product correspond with the requirements?
- 4. Are style conventions for commentary followed?

Rules of construction are based on the software architecture and its specific protocols, templates, and conventions used to carry it out. For example, these include interprocess communication protocols, tasking and concurrent operations, program unit construction, and data representation.

- 1. Are guidelines for program unit construction followed?
- 2. Is the interprocess communication protocol followed?
- 3. Are data representation conventions followed?

Multiple views are based on the various perspectives required to be reflected in the product. During execution many factors must operate as intended including initialization, timing of processes, memory use, input and output, and finite word effects. In generating the software, packaging considerations must be coordinated including program unit construction, program generation process, and target operations. Product construction disciplines of systematic design and structured programming must be followed as well as interfaces with the user, operating system, and physical hardware.

1. Have execution considerations been assessed including timing, memory use, input and output, initialization, and finite word effects?

2. Have packaging considerations been assessed including program unit construction, program generation process, and target operations?

3. Have user interface considerations been assessed?

FORMS AND REPORTS

All data collected and reported during the Software Inspections Process is recorded by the recorder. This includes data about the product being inspected and about the inspection process itself. The value of the experiment hinges on the uniformity and consistency of the recording process. The requirements for data collection are carefully defined and are an important part of the training for the Software Inspection Lab. There are three recording instruments: Inspection Record, Inspection Reporting Form, and Report Summary Form.

The **Inspection Record** gathers data about the conduct of the process in the Software Inspection Lab. The name of the project, the specific product component, and the date of the inspection session are recorded. The size of the product is recorded. This metric is defined as the number of non-blank lines. Where an organization has an established definition for a line of code, this metric is recorded. Each participant is listed by name and identified by role including moderator, recorder, reader, reviewer, and producer. During the entry criteria process, the recorder asks each participant to state the number of minutes of inspection preparation effort expended, and this is recorded. Each product checklist selected for use in this session is noted. The time spent in the inspection conduct is recorded as the wall clock time for the start and end of the session.

The **Inspection Reporting Form** gathers data about each issue raised in the inspection session. In addition to a description of the issue, important information about the issue is collected. Each issue is assigned a sequence number. In inspecting a product component, several units may be inspected in a session. The component unit name is recorded. The page and line number pinpointing the issue is entered. Where page and line numbers are not present, the pages are numbered manually; and page position is identified as top, middle, bottom. The checklist name and entry number most closely corresponding to the issue are entered, for example, completeness and correctness. A defect category is assigned as missing, wrong, or extra. A defect severity is assigned as major or minor. The appropriate defect type is assigned.

Defect type definitions include:

Interface: error in parameter list

Data: error in data definition, initial value setting, or use of disciplined data structures and their operations

Logic: error revealed through informal correctness questions spanning prime constructs of structured programming I/O: error in formatting, commanding, or controlling I/O operations **Performance:** error in managing or meeting constraints in computer resource allocations and capacities for CPU, memory, or I/O

Functionality: error in stating intended function or in satisfying intended function through refinement and elaboration

Human Factors: error in externally visible user or enterprise interface or interaction

Standards: error in compliance with product standards for construction or integration including programming style guidelines, open system interfaces, or guidelines for the application domain architecture

Documentation: error in guidance documentation

Syntax: error in language defined syntax

Maintainability: Error in good practice impacting the supportability and evolution of the software product

Other: any other error

Defect types discontinued include:

Test Environment: Limitation, incompatibility, or error in test bed

Test Coverage: Shortfall in requirements or functionality covered by test exercisers

The **Report Summary Form** is constructed at the close of the inspection session. It is a frequency count of issues presented as a matrix of defect types by defect severity (major, minor) and defect category (missing, wrong, extra). This form serves several purposes. Since it cannot be constructed unless the recorder has completed the Inspection Reporting Form, it serves as an on the spot check of the recorder. Once completed, weaknesses are highlighted and some opportunities for defect prevention suggest themselves. When the results of enough inspection sessions are overlayed on the Report Summary Form, these frequency counts divided by the total defects can serve as the probability of occurrence for each defect type, defect severity, and defect category.

SOFTWARE INSPECTION LAB

The centerpiece of the National Software Quality Experiment is the Software Inspection Lab [O'Neill 89]. Here data collection procedures, product checklists, and participant behaviors are packaged for operational use. In order to ensure the uniform application of the experiment and the collection of consistent measurements, each participant is trained in the Software Inspections Process. This course is composed of one day of lecture, prerecorded video, and student participation focusing on the elements of software inspections followed by the Inspection Lab.

Learning to organize and conduct software inspections involves learning both knowledge and skills. Basic knowledge of software engineering, of models of software engineering processes, and of how programs can be verified within them is essential to understanding why and how software inspections can be effective. Knowledge of the steps and elements of the software inspection process as well as the skills involved in performing them form the basis for organizing the process in a specific organization and project. Finally, various performance and human relations skills are involved in actually conducting software inspections. Such skills are best learned through a sequence of verbal understanding, modeling, and practice.

To apply the behavior, skills, and knowledge acquired during day one, the Inspection Lab provides the opportunity for each participant to play each defined role. In this way, the concepts learned are put to immediate use in a realistic situation, difficulties are encountered and overcome, and the confidence to reapply these skills on a real project is developed. The realism of the Inspection Lab is achieved by requiring each participant to bring five to ten pages of actual detailed design or code to be inspected.

Planning for the lab takes place at the close of the day one session. The outcome of this planning session is the assignment of a defined role for each participant in each inspection session. Everyone is expected to prepare for the lab by reviewing the detailed design or code to be inspected for compliance with product checklists.

In the conduct of the Inspection Lab, inspections are conducted on each artifact. Each participant plays the defined role assigned for each inspection. The recorder collects all the data using the standard forms and reports. This includes an identification of each participant by name and role, the preparation effort applied, the wall clock time of the inspection session, the product component name, and size of the artifact being inspected. During the conduct process, the recorder describes each issue along with information on defect type, category, severity, and origin. The issue data collected is tabulated into a summary matrix at the close of the inspection session.

The moderator is assisted in the operation of the Inspection Lab by the checklist entries for entry criteria, conduct, and exit criteria. The checklist entries defining the conduct of the lab include:

Entry Criteria

- 1. Has the preceding life cycle been concluded?
- 2. Are review participants in place and briefed?
- 3. Have all participants received all the review materials and checklists?
- 4. How many minutes of preparation did each participant perform?
- 5. Are there any changes to the baseline?

Conduct

- 1. Are there any issues in completeness?
- 2. Are there any issues in correctness?
- 3. Are there any issues in style?
- 4. Are there any issues in rules of construction?
- 5. Are there any issues in multiple views?
- 6. Are there any issues in technology?

Exit Criteria

- 1. Have all product elements been inspected?
- 2. Have all checklists been processed?
- 3. Have the inspection results been recorded?
- 4. Would the recorder read back the issues?
- 5. Have metrics been collected?
- 6. What should be the disposition of the inspection?
- 7. Would the producer like an opportunity to comment?

After all the inspections have been conducted and the data collected, participants may analyze the results to identify root causes of defects discovered in order to prevent their reoccurrence. The ranking of defect types by defect frequency provides a clear indication of any patterns of neglect.

DATABASE DESIGN

The database for the National Software Quality Experiment has been created and is being sustained as a steady stream of core samples of software quality is entered. Findings are analyzed and reported on an annual basis.

The database is organized by organization, year, software process maturity level, organization type, product type, programming language, global region, and industry type.

Database Field Definitions 1. Organization Anonymous identifier Organization name 2. Year [pre-1992-2000] 3. Software Process Maturity Level [Level 1-3] 4. Organization Type Commercial DOD Industry Government 5. Product Type Embedded Organic Packaged 6. Programming Language Type Old Style Modern 7. Global Region North America Asia Pacific Europe Latin America 8. Industry Type **Telecommunications** Transportation Financial Manufacturing Medical Systems Utilities and Energy Defense 9. Application 10. Process Measurement **Preparation Effort in Minutes Conduct Time in Minutes** Major Defects **Minor Defects** Size in Lines of Code Size in Pages Number of Participants 11. Process Metrics Preparation Effort Per Defect Preparation Effort Per Major Defect Major Defect Per Thousand Lines Minor Defects Per Thousand Lines

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Size Per Conduct Hour Defects Per Session Preparation Effort/Conduct Effort Lines Per Session Return on Investment 12. Defect Type Interface Data Logic 1/0 Performance Functionality Human Factors Standards Documentation Syntax Maintainability Other

Spreadsheet Expressions

- Consider the raw data being provided as proprietary
 Defect type data is missing on early instances and a few later ones
- 3. Some changes in defect type definitions
 - -Test Environment and Test Coverage defect types fall out of usage -Maintainability defect type was added

4. Spreadsheet road map and expressions:

А	Title	analysis bin name
В	Prep Effort	minutes
С	Conduct Time	minutes of wall clock time
D	Major Defects	affecting execution
E	Minor Defects	not affecting execution
F	Lines of Code	non-blank lines
G	Pages of Doc	pages
Н	Sessions	number of inspections
I	Prep/Defect	"=B/(D+E)"
J	Prep/Major	"=B/D"
К	Major/Size	"=D/(F/1000)"
L	Minor/Size	"=E/(F/1000)"
М	Size/Conduct	"=F/(C/60)"
Ν	Defects/Session	"=(D+E)/H"
0	Prep/Conduct	"=B/(C*4)"
Р	Return on Investment	"=((D*9)+E)/((B+(C*4))/60)"

Notes:

- 1. B through H, General numeric format
- 2. I through P, Fixed Numeric format, Precision 2
- 3. I through P, Graphs using Bar Format using Labels shown
- 4. I through P cell expressions include row number, ie, =B10/(D10+E10)

EXPERIMENT RESULTS

RESULTS SUMMARY

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "The years teach us things the days never knew". The National Software Quality Experiment has been accumulating a steady stream of core samples for its micro-level national database. These results have provided a benchmark of software product quality measurements useful in assessing progress towards the national software quality objective for the year 2000. These results are highlighted below in the discussion of the common problems pinpointed, defect category and severity data summary, Inspection Lab operations, and the ranking of defect types.

Common Problems

Analysis of the issues raised in the experiment to date has revealed common problems that reoccur from session to session. Typical organizations which desire to reduce their software problem rates should focus on preventing the following types of defects:

1. Software product source code components are not traced to requirements. As a result, the software product is not under intellectual control,

- verification procedures are imprecise, and changes cannot be managed.
- 2. Software engineering practices for systematic design and structured programming are applied without sufficient rigor and discipline.
 - As a result, high defect rates are experienced in logic, data, interfaces, and functionality.
- 3. Software product designs and source code are recorded in an ad hoc style. As a result, the understandability, adaptability, and maintainability of the software product are directly impacted.

4. The rules of construction for the application domain are not clearly stated, understood, and applied.

As a result, common patterns and templates are not exploited in preparation for later reuse.

5. The code and upload development paradigm is becoming predominant in emerging e-commerce applications.

As a result, the enterprise code base services only the short term

planning horizon where code rules and heroes flourish, but it mortgages the future where traceable baseline requirements, specification, and design artifacts are necessary foundations.

Defect Category and Severity

An earlier analysis was conducted on defect category and defect severity. The defect severity metric revealed that 14.27% of all defects were major, and 85.73% minor. Defect category distinguishes missing, wrong, and extra. For major defects, 7.44% were missing, 5.95% wrong, and .88% extra. For minor defects, 49.76% were missing, 27.63% wrong, and 8.32% extra.

Defect Severity and Category Summary				
	Missing	Wrong	Extra	Total
Major	7.44	5.95	.88	14.27
Minor	49.76	27.63	8.32	85.73
Total	57.20	33.60	9.20	100.00

Inspection Lab Operations

Through 2002 there have been 157 Inspection Labs in which 3,324 participants were trained and conducted 3,040 inspection sessions. A total of 1,020,229 source lines of code have received strict and close examination using the packaged procedures of the lab. There have been 181,471 minutes of preparation effort and 71,283 minutes of conduct time expended to detect 14,903 defects.

Of these 14,903 defects, 2,512 were classified as major and 12,391 as minor. A major defect effects execution; a minor defect does not. It required 12.18 minutes of preparation effort on the average to detect a defect. To detect a major defect required 72.24 minutes of preparation effort on the average. On the average, 858.74 source lines of code were examined each inspection conduct hour. There were 2.46 major defects detected in each thousand lines, and 12.15 minor defects. There were 4.90 defects detected in inspecting 335.60 lines per session. The preparation effort was 0.64 of conduct effort. The Software Inspection Labs produced a return on investment of 4.50.

		INSPECTIO	ON LAB OPERA	TIONS	
Sessions	Prep Effort	Conduct Time	Major Defects	Minor Defects	Size in Lines
3,040 1,020,229	181,471	71,283	2,512	12,3	391
Metrics:					
1.	12.18	minutes of preparation effort per defect			
2.	72.24	minutes of preparation effort per major defect			
3.	2.46	major defects per thousand lines			
4.	12.15	minor defects per thousand lines			
5.	858.74	lines per conduct hour			
6.	4.90	defects per session			
7.	0.64	preparation/ conduct effort			
8.	335.60	lines per session			

Defect Type Ranking

The foremost defect types that accounted for 91% of all defects detected are shown below. Documentation, specifically lack of traceability, accounts for 40.51% of all defects. Standards accounts for about 23.20%. Both of these are examples of organizational neglect. These are followed by logic, functionality, syntax, data, and maintainability defect types which are examples of programmer neglect.

Documentation	40.51%	error in guidance documentation
Standards	23.20%	error in compliance with product standards
Logic	7.22%	error revealed through informal correctness questions
Functionality	6.57%	error in stating or meeting intended
Syntax	4.79%	error in language defined syntax compliance
Data	4.62%	error in data definition, initial value setting, or use
Maintainability	4.09%	error in good practice impacting the supportability and evolution of the software product



Defect Type Groups

Defect types can be organized for analysis as follows:

- Requirements
 - Documentation
- External
 - ◇ Interface, human factors, I/O
- Internal
 - ◇ Functionality, logic, data, performance
- Software practice

Syntax, standards, maintainability, other



DEFECT RATES AND PRODUCT SIZE

An analysis was conducted on defect rates and product size. The rate of defects detected in the Software Inspection Lab reveals an inverse relationship to product size. All programs contain a beginning, an end, and a context for operation within the larger system. Starting, finishing, and fitting in are all more error prone than the body of the program which gives it size.





A Risk Management Application

The probability of occurrence of defect types has application in managing software risks on the project. Here it is useful to make a careful distinction between sources of risk, risks, and problems. A problem is a previous risk whose consequences are being played out.

The **documentation** defect type accounted for 40.51% of all defects. The lack of a requirements traceability mechanism is a principal source of risk contributing to the documentation defect type. Left unattended, this source of risk will continue at a high probability of occurrence, and there will be problems in baseline and change management and in ease of maintenance and adaptability.

The **standards** defect type accounted for 23.20% of all defects. The lack of a programming style guide or the lack of enforcement of the style guide is a principal source of risk contributing to the standards defect type. Left unattended, this source of risk will continue at a moderately high probability of occurrence, and there will be problems in ease of maintenance and adaptability.

The **logic** defect type accounted for 7.22% of all defects. The lack of rigor in applying systematic design, structured programming, and disciplined data structures is a principal source of risk contributing to the logic defect type. Left unattended, this source of risk will continue at a moderate probability of occurrence, and there will be problems in reliability and ease of maintenance and adaptability.

The **functionality** defect type accounted for 6.57% of all defects. The lack of shared vision between producer and consumer and the lack of experience with the application domain are the principal sources of risk contributing to the functionality defect type. Left unattended, this source of risk will continue at a low probability of occurrence, and there will be problems in end user satisfaction.

The **data** defect type accounted for 4.62% of all defects. The lack of experience with the application domain, the use of disciplined data structures, and the hardware/software platform are the principal sources of risk contributing to this defect type. Left unattended, this source of risk will continue at a low probability of occurrence, and there will be problems in reliability.

The **syntax** defect type accounted for 4.79% of all defects. The lack of experience with the rules of syntax for recording the artifact and the fact that people make mistakes sometimes are the principal sources of risk contributing to the syntax defect type. Left unattended, this source of risk will lead to ambiguity and errors in logical expression,

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problems in end user satisfaction, and problems in end user satisfaction and adaptability.

The **maintainability** defect type accounted for 4.09% of all defects. The extreme emphasis on time to market and the widespread adoption of the code and ship/upload life cycle has impacted the use of good software engineering practice impacting the supportability and evolution of the software product. Left unattended, the occurrence of the maintainability defect type will increase, and there will be problems in end user satisfaction and the cost of maintenance.

The **performance** defect type accounted for 2.30% of all defects. The lack of experience with the application domain and the hardware/software platform is a principal source of risk contributing to the performance defect type. Left unattended, this source of risk which applies to a small percentage of the code will continue at a low probability of occurrence, and there will be problems in end user satisfaction as a result.

Questions Answered in the Lab

The micro-level national database on software product quality can be used to answer important software engineering questions. When appropriately selected core samples are accumulated in the Report Summary Form and the probability of occurrence is computed for each defect type, defect severity, and defect category, these probabilities can be used to construct answers to questions. Five of Boehm's top ten risks are answered below using the 1992-2002 data from the experiment:

To what extent were the wrong software functions being developed? Functionality errors accounted for 6.57% of all errors. To what extent were the wrong user interfaces developed? Interface errors accounted for 1.18% of all errors. Human Factors accounted for 1.98% of all errors. To what extent was there gold plating? 9.20% of all errors were classified as extra.

To what extent was there a continuing stream of requirements changes? Documentation errors accounted for 40.51% of all errors.

To what extent was there a shortfall in real time performance?

Performance errors accounted for 2.30% of all errors.

Questions Not Yet Answered

There is interest in defect leakage and ways to measure and reason about it. The Software Inspection Lab includes a mechanism to collect data on defect leakage and to reason about the results. This reasoning process crosses over into defect prevention... and fault and failure prediction.

Defect leakage was introduced into the National Software Quality Experiment in 1995, and the data on this is starting to build up. The defect leakage data needs to populate each analysis bin in sufficient quantity before these results are usable. With this data it will be possible to conduct special studies on defect leakage to augment the core analyses done continuously.

Questions asked but not yet answered include:

- 1. To what extent is defect leakage occurring?
- 2. What is the frequency distribution of defect types that leak?
- 3. What is the frequency distribution of defect types for each life cycle activity?

The mechanism used to gather defect leakage involves identifying the life cycle activity for each software inspection and the defect origin for each defect. Each software inspection is considered an exit criteria for a software product engineering activity. Each defect is characterized by category, severity, type, ... and defect origin. Defect origin is the software product engineering activity where the defect was inserted. Where defect origin does not match the software product engineering activity for which this inspection serves as an exit criteria, defect leakage has occurred.

Separating signal from noise is a challenge in the analysis of defect leakage. As I rollout software inspections in organizations, I know that the data collection mechanism is consistent and well defined and that the data collection practice is reasonably consistent. The inconsistency of the software product engineering activity is a source of noise. With the software industry practice at a low level of software process maturity, noise dominates signal. Learning more about measuring defect leakage and methods to reason about these measurements are prerequisites to serious work in the estimation of defect leakage.

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

As software inspections practice takes hold on the project, measured results accumulate with each inspection session. Naturally the defects detected in each session are corrected and defect leakage is reduced. More can be done with the project's inspection measurement data.

These measurements provide the means to achieve defect prevention. This is accomplished by coordinating a monthly project analysis of these results. The project manager convenes a meeting of staff members dedicated to the analysis of software inspection results. This analysis spans both process and product measurements.

The process measurements and their derived metrics are assessed. The project measurements taken are compared to the project history, the organization measurement, and the industry average taken from the National Software Quality Experiment. Where the project measurement is at substantial variance, the project team reasons about the cause and the process changes it may suggest.

The product measurements are collected on the Inspection Summary Form which organizes the frequency of defect types by category and severity. Each defect type is assessed, and the following questions are asked:

- 1. Why does the defect type occur?
- 2. What management action can be taken?
- 3. What technical action can be taken?
- 4. What process change can be made?
- 5. Is the action worth taking?

At the conclusion of the session the project team recaps the actions worth taking. These analysis results may be shared with senior management and made available to the coordination infrastructure.

MEASUREMENT RESULTS BY ANALYSIS BINS

When organized into analysis bins, the information may suggest interesting trends. The analysis bins are used to organize the findings into collections of data that reveal distinctions. The types of bins selected are year, software process maturity, organization type, product type, programming language, global region, and industry type. As data for each year is

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collected, the overall results become more interesting, and the population of analysis bins becomes more robust.

YEAR: 1992-2002

The thesis for the experiment was stated in 1992, the year the Department of Defense made a commitment to reduce software problems by a factor of ten by the year 2000. Accordingly, the experiment systematically tracks software inspection measurements and metrics each year beginning with 1992.

The data collected in the Software Inspection Lab are well defined measurements. Ralph Waldo Emerson observed, "The years teach us things the days never knew." In fact this adage holds true for the experiment.

SOFTWARE PROCESS MATURITY

The Software Engineering Institute's Capability Maturity Model identifies five levels of software process maturity. These levels motivate and guide an organization from commitment management to the achievement of predictable results through measurement. Accordingly, the experiment organizes the measurements and metrics by software process maturity. The organizations participating in the experiment were assessed at level 1, level 2, and level 3 during their involvement.

ORGANIZATION TYPE

There is interest in the effect that organization type has on on a variety of software engineering outcomes including quality. A useful distinction among organizations is to separate Government, DOD Industry, and Commercial organizations. A Government organization draws its performance team from the ranks of civil servants and military personnel. A DOD Industry organization produces software under contract to the Government or other DOD Industry organization. A commercial organization produces software to support its business enterprise or to sell to consumers.

PRODUCT TYPE

There is interest in the effect that product type has on a variety of software engineering outcomes including quality. Some software products are embedded in complex hardware/software systems and may operate in real time. These tend to operate within tight constraints and place a high premium on meeting schedule. Other software products are organically entwined with the people and processes of the enterprise they serve. These are produced by relatively small teams that possess a thorough understanding of how the system contributes to the organization's objectives.

- Embedded software might be found in the guidance system for a cruise missle or a collision avoidance system on a railroad engine. This operates in real time and must be safety critical. Consequently, embedded software is produced using disciplined software engineering. These organizations may operate as SEI CMM level 4-5.
- Organic software might be found in a business supporting accounts receivable, invoicing, and payments. This operates in quick time and must be trustworthy. Consequently, organic software is produced using structured software engineering. These organizations may operate as SEI CMM level 3.
- In my experience, eCommerce applications, which are driven by time to market demands, are produced using ad hoc programming best described as code and upload.

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE

There is interest in the effect programming language selection has on a variety of software engineering outcomes including quality. To construct programming language analysis bins with sufficient samples and sample sources, it was necessary to group programming languages into old style and modern. The old style bin includes Cobol, Fortran, CMS-2, Jovial and assembly language. The modern bin includes Ada, C, C++, Java, HTML, Perl, Mumps, SQL, and Visual Basic.

GLOBAL REGION

As global competitiveness moves to the forefront, understanding distinctions among global regions is of interest. Analysis bins exist for North America, Latin America, and Asia Pacific.

INDUSTRY TYPE

As the usage of software increases, the number of industries dependent on software increases. Essential industries which derive significant value from software include telecommunications, transportation, financial, manufacturing, medical systems, utilities and energy, defense, and e-commerce. Note: e-commerce results are reported in the industry group of which they are a part.

SOFTWARE PRODUCT ENGINEERING MODE

Three modes of software product engineering practice are identified:

- 1. Ad hoc programming is characterized by a code and upload life cycle and a hacker coding style. The result is spaghetti bowl coding lacking in order and consistency. This is common in low software process maturity organizations especially those facing time to market demands. Its practitioners are expected to experience high defect insertion and low defect detection rates.
- 2. Structured software engineering employs structured programming, modular design, and defined programming style and pays close attention to establishing and maintaining traceability among requirements, specification, architecture, design, code, and test artifacts. The result is well structured, consistently recorded components with organized relationships among modules and traceability among life cycle artifacts.
- 3. Disciplined software engineering is more formal and might be patterned after Clean Room software engineering [Prowell 99], Personal and Team Software Process [Humphrey 97], and Extreme Programming techniques [Wells 01]. The result is well specified, professionally engineered, expertly architected with source code components organized and made understandable through templates for repeating patterns whose completeness, correctness, style, and rules of construction can be reasoned about with confidence.







National Software Quality Experiment Metrics: All Participants by Time













Analysis of Annual Averages

The 1992 hypothesis being investigated in the National Software Quality Experiment is whether software problems are being reduced by a factor of ten by the year 2000. An analysis of annual averages suggests that a moderately stable process is in operation, and that there is little pressure to reestablish performance at an improved level of practice.

Prep/Defect- The average prep/defect has operated in a stable manner in the early years with less predictability in the later years. A lower prep/defect may suggest:

1. There may be more inserted defects to find.

2. Practitioners may be getting better at detecting defects.





Prep/Maj- The average prep/maj has operated in a stable manner almost throughout the period. A lower prep/defect may suggest:

1. Practitioners may be getting better at detecting defects... especially major defects.

2. Practitioners may be inserting more defects.



Figure 6b Preparation Per Major Defect by Year

Maj/Thousand- The average maj/thousand has operated in a moderately unstable manner throughout the time period.

1. This metric is sensitive to the distinction between new development code and legacy code.

2. This metric is sensitive to the defect insertion rate. Therefore, a high average maj/thousand may simply indicate the presence of a large number of defects. @Copyright Don O'Neill, 2003 50

3. This metric is sensitive to software product engineering mode which influences both detect insertion and detect detection rate.



Figure 6c Major Defects Per Thousand Lines by Year

Min/Thousand- The average min/thousand has operated in a moderately unstable manner throughout the time period.

1. Practitioners seem to detect a steady volume of minor defects.

2. This metric is sensitive to the distinction between new development code and legacy code.

3. This metric is sensitive to the defect insertion rate. Therefore, a high average min/thousand may simply indicate the presence of a large number of defects.

4. This metric is sensitive to software product engineering mode which influences both detect insertion and detect detection rate.



Figure 6d Minor Defects Per Thousand Lines by Year

Size/Conduct Hour- Average size/conduct hour has operated in a moderately stable manner throughout most of the time period.

1. This metric is sensitive to the distinctions between new development code and legacy code.

2. This metric is sensitive to the preparation effort prior to the session. Higher preparation effort may yield higher size/conduct hour.



Figure 6e Size Per Conduct Hour by Year

Defects/Session- Average defects /session operated in a moderately stable manner throughout most of the time period.

1. Practitioners seem to detect a steady number of defects per session.

2. This metric is sensitive to the preparation effort prior to the session. Higher preparation effort may yield higher defects/session.





Prep/Conduct- Average prep/conduct has consistently trended downward over the time period.

1. Practitioners increasingly are experiencing excessive overtime and even off the clock time and neglect preparation effort for software inspections.

2. Where average prep/conduct approaches equilibrium (1.0), defect leakage may be reduced.





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Size/Session- Size/session has operated in a moderately stable manner throughout the time period.

1. One way to look harder for defects is to reduce size/session.

2. This metric is sensitive to the distinctions between new development code and legacy code.

3. This metric is sensitive to the preparation effort prior to the session.



Figure 6h Size Per Session by Year

Savings/Cost (ROI)- Average savings/cost has operated in a marginally stable manner throughout the time period.

1. Return on investment fuels management commitment to the software process.

2. High defect detection results in high return on investment.



Figure 6i Return on Investment by Year

Reasoning About Findings: Software Process Maturity

The level 1 major and minor defects per thousand lines are less than half of level 2 and level 3. Are level 1 organizations inserting less defects ... or simply finding less?



Level 1 lines per conduct hour and lines per session are double level 2 and level 3. One way to look harder for defects is to inspect smaller artifacts. Level 2 and level 3 @Copyright Don O'Neill, 2003 53 NSQE organizations are looking harder... and finding more.



Level 2 preparation/conduct effort approaches 1.0 which is the desired equilibrium. Another way to look harder for defects is to increase preparation time. Level 1 and level 3 show a large shortfall in preparation... suggesting that more defects could be detected.



Level 1, 2, 3 defects per session and return on investment is consistently repeatable.



Reasoning About Findings: Organization Type

DOD Industry seems to find more defects. Interestingly DOD Industry detects substantially more minor defects. While minor defects do not effect execution, their detection and correction is beneficial for maintenance.



Again DOD Industry stands out because it is inspection smaller artifacts. One way to look harder for defects is to inspect smaller artifacts.



The Government preparation/conduct effort approaches 1.0 which is the desired equilibrium. Another way to look harder for defects is to increase preparation time.



The DOD Industry return on investment lags others because its preparation per major defect is higher, and major defects strongly influence return on investment. Recall that DOD Industry looked harder by inspecting smaller artifacts.



The defects per session and defect type distributions are consistently repeatable.



Reasoning About Findings: Product Type

Embedded systems defect detection are more than twice of organic systems.



Embedded systems is inspecting smaller artifacts. One way to look harder is to inspect smaller artifacts.



Embedded systems are slightly higher than organic systems in defects per session and preparation/conduct effort.



The return on investment and defect type distributions are consistently repeatable.





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National Software Quality Experiment Metrics: Programming Language



National Software Quality Experiment Metrics: Industry Type



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Defects Per Session Metric

The increase in defects per session is accompanied by a steadily increasing return on investment, an increasing defect density in both major and minor defects per thousand lines of source code, and an increasing preparation/conduct effort ratio.



Lines Per Conduct Hour Metric

The increase in lines per hour is accompanied by a steadily increasing lines per session and a decreasing defect density in both major and minor defects per thousand lines of source code.



Defect Type Groups

In addition to control panels, the NSQE Repository contains defect type distributions containing the frequency of occurrence of each defect type. These defect types can be organized for analysis as follows:

- Requirements
 - Documentation
- External
 - ◇ Interface, human factors, I/O
- Internal
 - ◇ Functionality, logic, data, performance
- Software practice

Syntax, standards, maintainability, other



Derivation of Process Metrics: Control Panels

Metrics derived from these measurements are used in assessing the effectiveness and efficiency of the Software Inspections Process. It is useful to analyze the distribution of each derived metric. The following statistics are computed:

Bin	Prep/	Prep/	Major/	Minor/	Lines/	Defects	;	Prep/	ROI
	Defect	Major	KSLOC	KSLOC	Conduc	t	Per	Conduct	
		Defect			Hour	Session			
Average	12.18	72.24	2.46	12.15	858.7	4.90	0.64	4.50	
Max	63.64	700	52	168	3060	20	2.13	15.31	
Min	2.73	12.5	0.20	0.76	0	1.75	0.125	1.11	
STDEV	7.93	115.2	6.74	21.63	573.9	2.81	0.327	2.48	
LCL(20%)	7.96	39	1.08	8.07	292.7	3.35	0.433	2.85	
Median(50%)	12.82	79.83	2.87	16.79	624.5	4.471	0.571	3.98	
UCL(80%)	16.13	152	7.00	30.72	1046.8		6.745	0.821	6.67

A graphic view of the sorted observations provides a quick look analysis of the distribution. These are shown below. It is clear that the observations on the extremes are less useful in predicting and setting expectation. Consequently control panels are derived by selecting the twentieth percentile, fiftieth percentile, and eightieth percentile. With these values the following control panels result.





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Quality and Product Metrics

Software Inspections practice yields useful measurements easy to obtain. Thesae measurements can then be used to derive quality and product metrics.

Measurements taken include preparation effort, conduct time, number of participants, size of artifact, major defects, and minor defects. Useful quality metrics derived from these measurements include size per session and preparation effort/conduct effort ratio where conduct effort is conduct time times number of participants. Useful product metrics derived from these measurements include major defects per size and minor defects per size.

Return on Investment

Managers are interested in knowing the return on investment to be derived from software process improvement actions. The National Software Quality Experiment gathers the data needed to determine this for the Software Inspections Process.



The return on investment for software inspections is defined as net savings divided by detection cost, where net savings is cost avoidance less cost to repair now and detection cost is the cost of preparation effort and the cost of conduct effort. Savings result from early detection and correction avoiding the increased cost multiplier associated with detection and correction of defects later in the life cycle.

An undetected major defect that escapes detection and leaks to the next phase of the life cycle may cost two to ten times to detect and correct. A minor defect may cost two to four times to detect and correct. The net savings then may be up to nine times for major defects and up to three times for minor defects. The defined measurements collected in the Software Inspections Lab may be combined in complex ways to form this derived metric. A full discussion of these complexities can be found in "Return on Investment Using Software Inspections" at http://members.aol.com/ONeillDon/roi-essay.html. For those with software inspections results from their organization, the online calculator found at http://members.aol.com/ONeillDon/nsqe-roi.html can be used to compute return on investment.



Computing ROI

ROI: Net Savings/Detection Cost

Reasoning About Net Savings

Net Savings: Cost Avoidance-Cost to Repair Now

Net Savings:

 Major Defects * {(M1 * DD)+(M1 * DD) * (M2 * TL)*C1-C1}+Minor Defects * (M3-C2)

Where:

- Additional Cost to Repair Multiplier for Development to Test Major • M1: (2-10) Defect Leakage
- Additional Cost to Repair Multiplier for Test Customer Use Major • M2: (2-10) Defect Leakage
- M3: (2-4) DD: (.5-.95) Additional Cost to Repair for Minor Defect Leakage
- Defect Detection Rate for Development to Test
- TL: (.05-.5) Test Leakage Rate for Test to Customer Use
- C1: Average Cost to Repair Major Defect
- C2: Average Cost to Repair Minor Defect

Reasoning About Detection Cost

Detection Cost:

Preparation Effort + Conduct Effort

Detection Cost:

{Minutes of Preparation Effort + (Minutes of Conduct Time * P)}/60

Where:

- P: (4-6) Number of participants
- 60 minutes per hour

ANALYSIS OF ANNUAL AVERAGES

The 1992 hypothesis being investigated in the National Software Quality Experiment is whether software problems are being reduced by a factor of ten by the year 2000. An analysis of annual averages and ranges suggests that a moderately stable process is in

operation, and that there is little pressure to reestablish the control limits at an improved level of practice.

Analysis	of	Annual	Averages
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Metric	<u>In</u>	Out	
Prep/Defect	7	5	
Prep/Major	11	1	
Major/KSLOC	8	4	
Minor/KSLOC	8	4	
Size/Conduct	10	2	
Defect/Session		9	3
Prep/Conduct	9	3	
Size/Session	9	2	
ROI	10	2	
Total	81	27	

Averages

An analysis of the averages by year throughout the time period for the metrics under study suggest that these metrics are moderately stability [SPC 92]. With 12 years and 9 metrics there are 108 data points. Eighty-one (81) fall within one standard deviation of the average and 27 outside these limits. A discussion of each average metric follows.

Prep/Defect- The average prep/defect has operated in a stable manner in the early years with less predictability in the later years. A lower prep/defect may suggest:

- 1. There may be more inserted defects to find.
- 2. Practitioners may be getting better at detecting defects.



Prep/Maj- The average prep/maj has operated in a stable manner almost throughout the period. A lower prep/defect may suggest:

- 1. Practitioners may be getting better at detecting defects... especially major defects.
- 2. Practitioners may be inserting more defects.



Maj/Thousand- The average maj/thousand operated in a moderately unstable manner throughout the time period.

1. This metric is sensitive to the distinction between new development code and legacy code.

2. This metric is sensitive to the defect insertion rate. Therefore, a high average maj/thousand may simply indicate the presence of a large number of defects.

3. This metric is sensitive to software product engineering mode which influences both @Copyright Don O'Neill, 2003 70 NSQE detect insertion and detect detection rate. Therefore, a high average maj/thousand may indicate a high defect detection rate and the presence of a low number of defects.



Min/Thousand- Average min/thousand has operated in a moderately stable manner for four consecutive data points preceded by a special cause data point.

1. Practitioners seem to detect a steady volume of minor defects.

2. This metric is sensitive to the distinction between new development code and legacy code.

3. This metric is sensitive to the defect insertion rate. Therefore, a high average maj/thousand may simply indicate the presence of a large number of defects.

4. This metric is sensitive to software product engineering mode which influences both detect insertion and detect detection rate. Therefore, a high average maj/thousand may indicate a high defect detection rate and the presence of a low number of defects.



Size/Conduct Hour- Average size/conduct hour operated in a moderately stable manner. 1. This metric is sensitive to the distinctions between new development code and legacy code.

2. This metric is sensitive to the preparation effort prior to the session. Higher preparation effort may yield higher size/conduct hour.



Defects/Session- Average defects /session operated in a moderately stable manner throughout the time period.

1. Practitioners seem to detect a steady number of defects per session.

2. This metric is sensitive to the preparation effort prior to the session. Higher preparation effort may yield higher defects/session.



Prep/Conduct- Average prep/conduct has consistently trended downward over the time period.

1. Practitioners increasingly are experiencing excessive overtime and even off the clock time and neglect preparation effort for software inspections.

2. Where average prep/conduct approaches equilibrium (1.0), defect leakage may be reduced.



Size/Session- Size/session operated in a moderately stable manner throughout the time period.

1. One way to look harder for defects is to reduce size/session.

2. This metric is sensitive to the distinctions between new development code and legacy code.

3. This metric is sensitive to the preparation effort prior to the session. Higher preparation effort may yield higher size/conduct hour.



Savings/Cost (ROI)- Average savings/cost has operated in a marginally stable manner throughout the time period.

1. Return on investment fuels management commitment to the software process.

2. High defect detection results in high return on investment.


Reasoning About Findings: Software Process Maturity

The level 1 major and minor defects per thousand lines are less than half of level 2 and level 3. Are level 1 organizations inserting less defects ... or simply finding less?



Level 1 lines per conduct hour and lines per session are double level 2 and level 3. One way to look harder for defects is to inspect smaller artifacts. Level 2 and level 3 organizations are looking harder... and finding more.



Level 2 preparation/conduct effort approaches 1.0 which is the desired equilibrium. Another way to look harder for defects is to increase preparation time. Level 1 and level 3 show a large shortfall in preparation... suggesting that more defects could be detected.



Level 1, 2, 3 defects per session and return on investment are consistently repeatable.







Reasoning About Findings: Organization Type

DOD Industry seems to find more defects. Interestingly DOD Industry detects substantially more minor defects. While minor defects do not effect execution, their detection and correction is beneficial for maintenance.



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The defects per session and defect type distributions are consistently repeatable.



Reasoning About Findings: Product Type

Embedded systems defect detection aismore than twice that of organic systems.



Embedded systems are inspecting smaller artifacts. One way to look harder is to inspect smaller artifacts.



Embedded systems are slightly higher than organic systems in defects per session and preparation/conduct effort.



The return on investment and defect type distributions are consistently repeatable.



Special Study on Personal Software Process

The National Software Quality Experiment (NSQE) collects core samples of software product quality in the Software Inspection lab. Disciplined software engineering is the most formal practice of software product engineering and might be patterned after Clean Room software engineering, Personal and Team Software Process, and Extreme Programming techniques. As the National Software Quality Experiment (NSQE) operation expands to capture software inspection measurements from organizations of all kinds, it is becoming a resource to answer important software engineering questions.

While PSP is expected to enable level 4 and 5 capability, it is also expected to deliver measurably superior performance and products. But how does the practice of Personal Software Process compare to organizational performance at SEI CMM process maturity levels 1, 2, and 3?

National Software Quality Experiment

The National Software Quality Experiment (NSQE) collects core samples of software product quality in the Software Inspection lab. These core samples are assigned to analysis bins including year, software process maturity level, product type, organization type, programming language, global region, and industry type. Dozens of organizations have supplied thousands of core samples to this national database. The NSQE supplies the initial measurements and metrics needed by an organization to set its expectations for minutes of preparation effort per defect, defects per thousand lines of code, lines inspected per conduct hour and session, defects per session, preparation/conduct effort, and return on investment.

Disciplined Software Engineering

Disciplined software engineering is the most formal practice of software product engineering and might be patterned after Clean Room software engineering, Personal and Team Software Process, and Extreme Programming techniques. The result is expected to be well specified, professionally engineered, expertly architected with source code components organized and made understandable through templates for repeating patterns whose completeness, correctness, style, and rules of construction can be reasoned about with confidence. For many, this is the expectation for an SEI CMM level 4 and 5 organization. It is expected to experience low defect insertion and high defect detection rates. Without question, the focus of disciplined software engineering practitioners is on eliminating every possible defect even if defect detection costs exceed net savings and the return on investment falls below the break even point. For this group, every practitioner is riveted on achieving perfection.

Special Study Basis

As the National Software Quality Experiment (NSQE) operation expands to capture software inspection measurements from organizations of all kinds, it is becoming a resource to answer important software engineering questions. For example, NSQE is beginning to experience data collection from the practice of Personal Software Process (PSP). While the NSQE analysis bin of PSP results is thin containing only 86 inspection sessions, the comparison of results by Software Engineering Institute (SEI) Capability Maturity Model (CMM) level may be of interest.

Special Study Results

In conducting the special study, the NSQE metrics collected from PSP practitioners are

gathered and matched with the NSQE metrics results collected from level 1, level 2, and level 3 participants. The PSP/ level ratios for NSQE metrics are derived for each level 1-3. An analysis of the variances for the ratios of each metric and each level indicates a total variance for level 1 of 40.53, for level 2 of 25.20, and for level 3 of 26.05. A review of each individual metric shows that the least variance occurred once for level 1, three times for level 2, and five times for level 3. Therefore, the small sample of PSP results collected so far indicates that PSP performance most closely matches that of level 3 practitioners.

While there is a minimum variance between PSP and level 3 results and many of the NSQE metrics are closely comparable, three specific metrics standout in contrasting PSP to level 3 results:

- 1. Preparation effort per major defect is 195% [126.13 PSP versus 64.81 level 3]
- 2. Major defects per thousand lines of code is 62% [2.33 PSP versus 3.78 level 3]
- 3. Minor defects per thousand lines of code is 136% PSP versus 16.34 level 3]

[22.22

PSP and Level 3 Comparison

NSQE Metric	PSP) -	Level	3	<u>%</u>
minutes of preparation effort per defect	11.9	5	12.18		98
minutes of preparation effort per major defect	126.	13	64.81		195
major defects per thousand lines of code	2.33	3.78		62	
minor defects per thousand lines of code	22.22	16.34		136	
lines inspected per conduct hour	460		520		88
defects per session	4.66		4.72		99
preparation/conduct effort	.56		.53		105
lines per session	189		234		81
return on investment	3.18	4.28		74	

TSP Quality Guidelines

In addition, it is interesting to note that the lines of code per conduct hour suggested in the Team Software Process (TSP) Quality Guidelines is less than 200 lines compared to the PSP usage in NSQE measured at 460 lines. It should be noted that the lines of code per session for NSQE PSP is 189.

Conclusion

While PSP is expected to enable level 4 and 5 capability, it is also expected to deliver measurably superior performance and products. While this study is based on a thin sample of NSQE PSP results, these results do not indicate a convincingly superior performance associated with PSP practice.

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<u>Metric</u> Level 1 Net	<u>PSP</u>	Level 1	Percent
Prep Effort /Defect	11.95	11.543855816	103.51827145
Prep Effort/Major 78 9001835	126.13	70.503002001	178.90018357
Major/KSLOC	2.33	1.9664096822	118.49005937
Minor/KSLOC 121 243112	22.22	10.043250518	221.24311207
Lines/Conduct Hour 55.0702717	460	1023.8210145	44.929728293
Defects/Session 1.50628072	4.66	4.7312661499	98.493719279
Prep/Conduct Effort 5.31228946	0.56	0.59141782692 94.6	87710533
ROI 28.7268170	3.18	4.4617061678	71.273182957
Lines/Session 52.0249821	189	393.95503876	47.975017808
Average			40.5324741
Manuta			Deveent
<u>Metric</u> Level 2 Net	<u>PSP</u>	Level 2	Percent
Prep Effort /Defect	11.95	14.220472441	84.033776301
1.1 70077.00			
Prep Effort/Major 57 4766370	126.13	80.094420601	157.47663702
Prep Effort/Major 57.4766370 Major/KSLOC 47.373	126.13 2.33	80.094420601 4.4273851825	157.47663702 52.627
Prep Effort/Major 57.4766370 Major/KSLOC 47.373 Minor/KSLOC 8.34205744	126.13 2.33 22.22	80.094420601 4.4273851825 20.509117627	157.47663702 52.627 108.34205744
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CRITICAL DEFECT PREDICTION

Critical Defect, Fault, and Failure Prediction

If critical software defects, faults, and failures can be predicted, perhaps they can be detected, controlled, and prevented. If this could become standard software practice, the software industry could replace chaos and unpredictability with trustworthy software systems that earn public confidence. The goal is to be the recognized leader in trusted software systems practice.

There is insufficient defect, fault, and failure data available from the nation's factory floor. There is insufficient process, method, and tooling to combine defect data obtained through software inspections practice, software fault data obtained through software product test and use, and software failure data obtained through software system operation into predictions of trustworthy software system operation.



Trustworthy software systems are dependable in operation from a user perspective. Trustworthy software systems are convincingly reliable from an engineering perspective. Engineers assess and predict the reliability of a system in terms of fault analysis, mean time to failure, availability, and mean time to repair. Managers report on the emerging quality of the software system in terms of completeness, correctness, conformance to requirements, compliance with standards, adherence to rules of construction for the application domain, and various viewpoints.

The trustworthiness of software systems threatens the harmonious operation of critical industries and is impacting public confidence in the orderliness of society and its institutions both public and private. Bridging the gap of prediction practice among defects, faults, and failures remains an unsolved problem.

- Defects are detected early using software inspections as exit criteria for activities in the software life cycle. A defect is an instance where the software artifact does not meet the standard of excellence set as the exit criteria for the activity.
- Faults are detected later through exercise during integration and system test. A fault is an instance where the exercise of a software component yields an incorrect result.
- Failures are detected in operational test and operational deployment. A failure is a user visible instance where the operation of a software system does not meet expectation.

Critical Defect Prediction Model

Critical Defect, Fault, and Failure Prediction project is based on the integration of three models. Critical components are pinpointed through a *Survivability Assessment* of the concept of operations, software architecture, and the rules construction for its components. *The National Software Quality Experiment (NSQE)* with its Software Inspection Lab and its Repository of core samples uses defect detection to derive metrics capable of calibrating defect leakage prediction and defect leakage type distribution. The question then is, "To what extent are *Software Engineering Error Prediction Models* capable of utilizing defect @Copyright Don O'Neill, 2003 80 NSQE

leakage prediction and defect leakage type distribution to predict faults and failures?" The answer lies in the integration of models.



Disseminating the knowledge, skills, and behaviors for predicting defects, faults, and failures among the industry practitioners on the factory floor is accomplished by push and pull. Several initiatives generate pull including SEI CMM, 6-sigma, and ISO 9001, and the growing number of lawsuits stemming from software failure. Push is generated through distribution of an error prediction kit composed of data base structures, data repository, spreadsheet templates, and user handbook; licensing the use of certain data; reporting to user groups and industry conferences. Once a community of interest has been assembled, the diffusion strategy can best be operated from an open web site on the internet following the new rules of the new economy.

Project Plan



Prediction Goal, Question, Metric

The goal, question, metric (GQM) template introduced by Dr. Vic Basili can be used to focus the approach:

- The goal is to utilize defect data from the NSQE and the Software Inspection Lab to predict critical faults and failures and to calibrate Software Engineering Error Prediction Models.
- Several questions are asked. What are the critical software components? What is the defect type distribution of faults and failures? What is the defect leakage from design and code into test operations and from test to field operations?
- The metrics generated by the NSQE include both Software Inspection Lab Operations control panels and defect type distributions.

The NSQE Repository contains thousands of core samples from which control panels of upper and lower limits are derived. The control panel metrics are based on personnel effort, software component size, and defects detected and include:

- Minutes of preparation effort per major defect
- Minutes of preparation effort per defect
- Minutes of preparation effort per major defect
- Major defects per thousand line of code
- Minor defects per thousand line of code
- · New development lines per conduct hour
- · Legacy lines per conduct hour
- Defects per session
- Preparation effort / conduct effort
- Linės per session
- Return on investment

Spreadsheet Road Map

Spreadsheet road map and expressions:

ATitleatBPrep EffortmCConduct TimemDMajor DefectsddEMinor DefectsddFLines of CodemGPages of DocpHSessionsm	nalysis bin name ninutes of effort reported ninutes of wall clock time efects affecting execution efects not affecting execution on-blank lines in artifact being inspected ages in artifact being inspected umber of inspections
--	--

Spread Sheet Expressions

Prep/Defect	"=B/(D+E)"
Prep/Major	"=B/[)" ´
Major/Size	"=D/(F/1000)"
Minor/Size	"=E/(F/1000)́"
Size/Conduct Hou	r "=F∕̀	(C/60)" [´]
Defects/Session	"=(D-	-ÈE)/H″
Prep/Conduct	"=È/(C*4)"
Lines /Session	"=F/H	ł" ´
Return on Investm	ent "=((C)*9)+E)/((B+(C*4))/60)"
		· · · · · · · · · · · ·

Software inspections practice detects 60-90% of defects inserted. Occasionally this drops below 50%; infrequently it exceeds 95%. A defect detection range of 60-90% is defect leakage range of 40-10%. If the nominal defect detection is 75%; the nominal defect leakage would be 25%. These control panel metrics reveal the effectiveness of the software inspections practice and the expectation for detection and leakage.

Fault Detection	Detection Scale
Prep/Maj	"=((Prep/(Major)-81))/(152-47)"
Prep/Defect	"=((Prep/(Maj+Min))-13)/(16-9)"
Maj/KSLOC	"=(`Maj/(Size/1000)-3)/(6-1)"
Min/KSLOC	"=(Min/(Size/1000)-18)/(31-9)"
Size/Conduct	"=-((Size/(Conduct/60)-602)/(1115-292))"
Defects /Session	"=((Maj+Min)/Sessions-4.7)/(6.6-3.5)"
Prep/Conduct	"=(Prep/(Conduct*4)58)/(.8444)"
Lines/Session	"=((F/H")-255)/(420-125)
ROI	"=(((Maj*9)+Min)/((Prep+(Conduct*4))/60)-3.9)/(6.4-2.8)"
Average	"= SUM(Detection Scale Values)"
Prediction	
Predicted Major Leakage	"=(Maj/(Size/1000)*(1-(0.6+0.3*(Average))))"
Predicted Minor Leakage	"=(Min/(Size/1000)*(1-(0.6+0.3*(Average))))"

CONCLUSION

CLOSING OBSERVATIONS

The hypothesis of the National Software Quality Experiment set in 1992 is that software problems will be reduced by a factor of ten by the year 2001. The 1992-2002 data collected through the mechanism of the National Software Quality Experiment and its Software Inspection Lab strongly suggest that the hypothesis is not proved.

- Has the stated objective to reduce software problems been achieved? The short answer to the question is that the objective has not been met. The most compelling evidence is found in the 'Year' data under NSQE Results by Analysis Bin. The metrics data for each year meander in a limited control range, showing no signs of breaking out.
- Both the process metrics and the defect type percents are somewhat stable. To achieve a factor of ten reduction over the time period, there would need to be a breakout, a significant breakout. In the absence of a breakout, it is asserted that the improvement goal was not met.
- When software inspections data for an organization is collected, it generally falls into the patterns revealed by the NSQE once there are a few dozen software inspections. For example, if an organization is characterized as a level 2, defense industry sector, and embedded software type, the NSQE data with just those characteristics are selected as the benchmark.



In closing it needs to be restated that the data does not suggest progress towards the Year 2000 goal to reduce software problems by a factor of ten. Hunting for defects in software is a target rich opportunity. The harder the project looks for errors, the more it finds. The way to look harder is to reduce the volume of product inspected in each session and to increase preparation effort. In doing this, there continues to be a favorable return on investment for software inspections; savings exceed costs by 4 to 1.

The data suggests that increased software process maturity results in increased defect detection, with the expected result of lower defect leakage in the field. At level 1 the project lacks a shared vision for a standard of excellence for software engineering products. At level 2 attention is paid to establishing a standard of expectation, a standard of excellence, and so more defects are identified. At level 3 the standard is set and the well defined, fined grained processes for software product engineering are in place and in

practice with software inspections operating as the exit criteria for each activity of the life cycle. Many commercial enterprises possess a large volume of legacy software and find themselves anchored at level 1.

The data also suggests that defect density decreases with increasing program size... up to a point. All programs contain a beginning, an end, and a context for operation within the larger system. Starting, finishing, and fitting in are all more error prone than the body of the program which gives it size.

In addition the data suggests that the organization's neglect of its software process exceeds the poor workmanship of individual programmers as the source of errors. Documentation and standards defect types account for nearly two-thirds of all defects, and these are the responsibility of the organization and its process.

Software products are not well connected to the requirements or business case that inspired their creation. Much of the documentation type defect detection results from the lack of traceability from the code to the design to the specification to the requirements.

Perhaps the Government should consider commercial practices. In addition, DOD Industry may be limited by the Government acquisition management practices it must adhere to. Consumers of embedded software products hold producers to higher standards than producers of organic software products hold themselves.

SPONSORING THE NATIONAL EXPERIMENT

In order to meet the objective to reduce software problem rates by a factor of ten by the year 2000, there must be steady improvement year by year. The 1992-2002 defect profiles collected in the National Software Quality Experiment provide the benchmark measurements to track progress towards the objective. In order to sustain the experiment, organizations must participate and sponsor this activity. Three steps are needed to sponsor the National Software Quality Experiment in an organization:

1. Senior management publicly communicates a buy-in for the experiment and its benefits and advocates its use in the organization and beyond.

2. Program managers install the Software Inspections Process, authorize training for project personnel, and initiate the practice of fact-based software management.

3. Software Inspection Lab results are disseminated among practitioners, program managers, and senior management.

The results of the Inspection Lab provide the energy to install the process and to improve software products. Software inspections are viewed as competency enhancing by practitioners, and there is little resistance once senior management makes a public commitment to sponsor the change. Despite this, only 22% of the organizations conducting the SEI's Software Process Assessment (SPA) are credited with practicing peer reviews [Kitson 92].

An effective technology transition strategy for installing the software inspections process is to first prototype the Inspection Lab and collect results. The participant feedback from the prototype sessions usually rates the willingness and ability to conduct inspections on the project at 4.0 to 4.4 on a 5.0 scale. The actual inspection results from the lab are fed back

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to practitioners, project management, and senior management. These results and discussions about them with senior management provide the proper environment to obtain senior management commitment, sponsorship, and funding for training conduct and student labor. The planning of production training may involve a make-buy decision on the training mechanism depending on the number of students and the organization approach to in-house training.

The software inspections training needed by the organization includes training for practitioners, orientation for project managers, and briefing for senior management. For practitioners the training must span the behavior, skills, and knowledge needed to carry out the defined roles in the Software Inspections Process. For project managers, the orientation should overview what the practitioners are taught along with specific responsibilities associated with using inspection results to reduce defect leakage. The senior management presentation should highlight the oversight opportunities associated with defect prevention.

Once the organization is trained, the monitoring of software inspection results at the monthly program review can begin. This should focus on the effectiveness of defect detection and correction activities and the efficiency of the process. In addition the oversight of organization inspection results at the senior management quarterly review should focus on patterns of neglect, defect prevention, and the selection of improvement opportunities. The results being communicated to management should also be fed back to practitioners on a regularly scheduled periodic basis. In addition, reporting Inspection Lab results to the National Software Quality Experiment results in feedback from the national database useful in obtaining an industrial calibration of the organization's software product quality.

FIELD MEASUREMENT LESSONS

In conducting the National Software Quality Experiment, valuable lessons in field measurement are being learned. These lessons are forming the prescription for obtaining lasting value in measurement:

1. Measurement must be aligned with business and performance needs. These activities must be built into the normal operation of the organization.

• To do this, the goals to be met and questions to be answered in management, engineering, and operations must precede the collection of data.

2. Metrics must be carefully pinpointed and rigorously defined. Extraordinary steps must be applied to obtain consistency and uniformity.

• Without a well defined process for data collection and analysis, the variance in the measurement process itself impacts the accuracy of results.

3. Attention must be paid to the confidentiality of results. The opportunity for improvement is increased when the measured results are made more widely available.

- However, individuals and groups naturally resist having their shortcomings made public. If ignored, this resistance will defeat the measurement program.
- The organization must strike a balance between public and private data.

NEXT STEPS

The National Software Quality Experiment is a demonstrated mechanism for collecting uniform and consistent measurements of software product quality. It provides the vantage point for software product quality and the field experience in measurement needed to jump start the practice of fact-based software management.

As the centerpiece of the experiment, the Software Inspection Labs have been installed

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in software factories around the country. The National Software Quality Experiment collects, organizes, and packages core samples of software product quality. These measurements are increasing the understanding of the state of the practice and how to measure it. Based on these results and the identification of common problems, organizations are challenged to:

1. Establish a tradition of baseline management with fine-grained traceability among requirements, specification, design, code, and test artifacts

2. Establish a tradition of modern software engineering design and coding practices

3. Establish a tradition of uniform recording style and its enforcement

4. Establish a tradition of visible evolution of modern domain architectures and product lines

The organization that wishes to calibrate its software inspection results with the National Software Quality Experiment is invited to conduct an NSQE assessment at: http://members.aol.com/ONeillDon/nsqe-assessment.html

The usefulness and success of the National Software Quality Experiment depends on sustaining a continuous stream of core samples. Organizations from industry, government and military, and commercial enterprise are invited to participate and enrich this national database resource.

The prediction of critical faults and failures using the core samples of defect data from the National Software Quality Experiment remains a future challenge now underway.

Fast Forward

In closing, it must be said that the future may be different than we expect. The DOD Technology Strategy focused on inward looking goals set in an earlier time:

- 1. Improving productivity by a factor of two
- 2. Reducing software problems by a factor ten

As software development is becoming better understood, there is a growing recognition and acceptance that fielding software systems involves a process of experimentation with hypotheses, alternatives, measurements, analysis, and iteration. These systems are less deterministic in requirements, capabilities, and features and

more non-deterministic in execution paths, platforms, and scalability.

Commercial organizations today focus on the outward looking goals needed to achieve global competitiveness. These organizations are focused on controlling personnel resources, managing customer relationships, innovating new products and features, and managing the risk of event threats.

Future Directions

In reasoning about future trends of Peer Reviews, the topics considered include increasing rate of software problems, improving the practice of defect prevention and prediction, extending the practice of Peer Reviews to systems engineering, understanding the process of experimentation in software development, exploiting technology in automating the Peer Reviews, and adapting to changes in business environment.

Software problem rates are not decreasing. The results of the National Software Quality Experiment 2000 show no systematic improvement towards fulfilling the national goal of a

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ten times reduction in software problems set in 1992. The defect rates continue to range from 1 to 10 defects per thousand lines of source code.

The factors that may be contributing to defect rates include:

- The emphasis on quicker, better, and cheaper
- The trend towards code and upload practice as the life cycle model
- The preoccupation on improving software process maturity and mastering the management track practices of the Software Engineering Institute's Capability Maturity Model for Software level 2, an obstacle to many
- The downsizing of middle management and senior technical staff known to hold the line on product quality.

While software inspections have been in use for over twenty-five years, defect prevention remains an immature practice. Defect prevention is a CMM level 5 key process area, and some organizations have achieved level 5. As more organizations seek to adopt the practice of defect prevention, its benefits and methods may become more well understood stimulating others to adopt the practice.

Similarly, defect prediction remains an underdeveloped practice. If software defects, faults, and failures can be predicted, perhaps they can be detected, controlled, and prevented. Model based techniques calibrated with defect detection early in the life cycle to predict defect rates in later life cycle activities have been demonstrated [Gaffney 97]. More modest efforts utilizing software inspections data to estimate the number of defects remaining to be found in testing are being applied on the project [Harding 98]. However, there is insufficient defect, fault, and failure data available from the nation's factory floor [O'Neill 99]. In addition there is insufficient process, method, and tooling to combine defect data obtained through software product test and use, and software failure data obtained through software system operation into predictions of trustworthy software system operation [Wallace 97].

While the benefits and usage of software inspections on code artifacts is well known, there is increasing interest in extending software inspections to all phases of the life cycle including requirements, specifications, design, code, and test artifacts. The CMMI project with the inclusion of Peer Reviews in the Product Verification process area extends Peer Reviews to both systems engineering and software artifacts.

To achieve the best possible practice of software inspections, both managers and technical practitioners are encouraged to decriminalize defects. People make mistakes sometimes, yet software must be bit perfect. When managers and technical participants view with alarm the defects detected in software inspections, it produces a negative impact. On the other hand, when managers genuinely decriminalize defects and use their detection as a means to prevent their recurrence, it produces a positive result. During a software inspection session, the litmus test for decriminalization lies in the reaction of participants when a major defect is detected. Does the group say 'good catch' or 'bummer'?

With the growing recognition that fielding software involves a process of experimentation and with the increasing pressures of competition and demand for innovation, software walkthroughs may experience increasing usage. Software walkthroughs encourage and support the learning essential to experimentation. In favoring the group interaction needed to achieve consensus, software walkthroughs may contribute to increased innovation in software products.

There is interest in automating software inspections. The value of programming languages with strong typing, robust compilers, static analyzers and traceability tools, and complexity metrics [McCabe 94] is recognized. However, software inspections is a reasoning activity and will remain essentially a human activity. The use of information technology innovations to support the logistics of preparation, scheduling, conduct, and results repository operations are sources for improved industry practice.

Software inspections are being conducted effectively using groupware tools. However, where global software development teams conducting geographically dispersed inspection sessions are using 'follow the sun' software development tactics, software inspection participants may be separated by both geography and time zones complicating the logistics of their application [Carmel 99].

Software inspections usage is increasing in e-commerce applications where code and upload is the typical life cycle practice. In an environment of rapid change and frequent releases, there is an absence of robust testing and sometimes even regression testing.

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Author: Don O'Neill

Don O'Neill is a seasoned software engineering manager and technologist currently serving as an independent consultant. Following his twenty-seven year career with IBM's Federal Systems Division, Mr. O'Neill completed a three year residency at Carnegie Mellon University's Software Engineering Institute (SEI) under IBM's Technical Academic Career Program. There he developed a blueprint for charting software engineering evolution in the organization including the training architecture and change management strategy needed to transition skills into practice.

As an independent consultant, Mr. O'Neill conducts defined programs for managing strategic software improvement. These include implementing an organizational Software Inspections Process, implementing Software Risk Management, and conducting Global Software Competitiveness Assessments. Each of these programs includes the necessary practitioner and management training.

In his IBM career, Mr. O'Neill completed assignments in management, technical performance, and marketing in a broad range of applications including space systems, submarine systems, military command and control systems, communications systems, and management decision support systems. He was awarded IBM's Outstanding Contribution Award three times:

1. Software Development Manager for the Global Positioning Ground Segment (500,000 source lines of code) and a team of 70 software engineers within a \$150M fixed price program.

2. Manager of the FSD Software Engineering Department responsible for the origination of division software engineering strategies, the preparation of software management and engineering practices, and the coordination of these practices throughout the division's software practitioners and managers.

3. Manager of Data Processing for the Trident Submarine Command and Control System Engineering and Integration Project responsible for architecture selections and software development planning (1.2M source lines of code).

Mr. O'Neill served on the Executive Board of the IEEE Software Engineering Technical Committee and as a Distinguished Visitor of the IEEE. He is a founding member of the National Software Council and the Washington DC Software Process Improvement Network (SPIN). He is an active speaker on software engineering topics and has served as the Program Chairman and Program Committee member for several conferences. He has numerous publications to his credit. Mr. O'Neill has a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

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word count: 18,350

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National Software Quality Experiment Prediction Statistics (1992-1998) Inspection Lab Operations

Bin Prep/Co	Prep/De Induct	efect ROI	Prep/Maj	Maj/KSLOC	Min/KSLOC	Lines/Conduct	Defects/Sess
Total	12.1642	43012	74.872700149	2.3492688762	12.110825679	901.04840266	4.967094703
Average	876528 13.9478	73927	116.11004934	3.7682694314	16.637492552	914.9310785	5.5364536887
0.713023 Max	383661 63.6363	4.831062 63636	25288 816.11004934	35.142857143	50.704225352	9122.2304833	20
2.13414 Min	63415 2.72727	15.3118 27273	50312 14.75	0	0	0	1.777777778
0.125 Range	60 9090	1.108949	94163 801 36004934	35 142857143	50 704225352	9122 2304833	18 22222222
2.00914	63415	14.2029	00896	55.112057115	30.101223332	5122.2501055	10.22222222
STDEV 0.36226	8.63909 981654	79648 2.51931(120.98438956 05155	5.0650642888	12.188842693	1184.5835154	2.9295997363
VAR	74.6340	13646	14637.222518	25.65487625	148.56788619	1403238.105	8.582554615
0.13123 Detection	941997	6.34692	54733 253803 -0.06895	247993 -0.00819	496634 -0.19633	30474 -0.34017	7122235
0.11543	45067	0.109519	905497 0.091097	737268			
LCL(14)	7.96802	32558	46.606557377 72328	0.92165898618	6.789480831	293.91763464	3.555555556
Median	12.7191	01124	75.22222222	2.3792529146	16.010922179	621.71449461	4.75
0.60769	230769	4.18895 41667	70552	4 6662274923	26 64824319	1115 0943396	7
0.90561	22449	6.42958	74822	1.000221 1323	20.01021313	1113.0313330	
Process I	Maturity						
Level 1	11.1755	09687	73.851882845	1.7655236809	9.9017068699	1101.0215535	4.8064516129
Average	14.0106	4.442110 35561	123.29234127	3.1726196506	16.29014321	1127.8640928	5.6317340991
0.69808 ⁴ Max	431539	4.802479	98577 823 29234127	16 337644656	50 704225352	9122 2304833	20
2.13414	63415	15.3118	50312	10.001011000	001101220002	5122.2001000	20
Min	2.72727	27273	14.75	0	0	0	1.777777778
Range	60.9090	90909	808.54234127	16.337644656	50.704225352	9122.2304833	18.22222222
STDEV	10.0043	4655	133.93899317	3.2794464231	11.641784235	1435.6811149	3.3380190385
0.36390	672576	2.62118	68097	10 75 4700040	105 5011 4010	2001100 2027	11 1 400 71 100
0.13242	810505	9499 6.870620	02912	10.754768842	135.53114018	2061180.2637	11.142371102
Detection	593398	-0.01486	6114659 -0.19162 8215222 0.07142	410828 -0.16386	035176 -0.30756	5762992 -0.58369	345382
LCL(14)	7.96802	32558	46.606557377	0.92165898618	6.789480831	293.91763464	3.555555556
Median	12.7191	01124	75.22222222	2.3792529146	16.010922179	621.71449461	4.75
0.60769	230769	4.188953 41667	70552	4 6662274923	26 64824319	1115 0943396	7
0.90561	22449	6.42958	74822	1.000221 1020	20.01021010	1110.0010000	
	14 0000	00704	70.004150001	4 70 40000 01 01	24 57267766	F 40 0070 (001	F 407004004
Level 2 0.84632	14.2909 968031	93704 4.680873	79.824159021 34821	4.7046298161	21.573677093	540.86764801	5.4279346211
Average	14.2755	87186	99.054409432	4.7585788045	16.741365981	553.31445228	5.5004789013
0.79593 Max	32.4404	4.768280 33213	382.05440943	35.142857143	50.571428571	2494.75	14.235294118
1.75193 Min	05019 5.86538	10.84913 46154	76172 20.842105263	0	0	0	2.696969697
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0.37841191067 2.378768021 Range 26.575048598 361.21230417 35.142857143 50.571428571 2494.75 11.538324421 1.3735185912 8.470408151 STDEV 6.3433579768 59.648923719 7.9057172863 14.052700107 556.06549694 2.4381894269 0.40015120485 2.216085508 VAR 40.238190421 3557.9941009 62.500365811 197.47838031 309208.83689 5.9447676814 0.16012098674 4.9110349789 Detection 0.05001258985 0.1949123702 0.6199012843 0.28014486871 0.09844776598 0.24939959916 0.51376017458 0.13905764365 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293.91763464 3.5555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 4.75 621.71449461 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33333333 4.6662274923 26.64824319 1115.0943396 7 0.9056122449 6.4295874822

Bin	Prep/Defect	Prep/Maj	Maj/KSLOC	Min/KSLOC	Lines/Conduct	Defects/Sess
Prep/Co	onduct ROI					
Level 3 0.53839	12.211352657 190628 4.411	7 62.413580247 10622685	4.0352712599	16.589448513	513.04792332	4.7045454545
Average 0.56363	12.643946477 249285 5.177	7 122.77273917 78534751	4.4276199385	18.375186043	700.94235529	5.0811678207
Max 0.90081	23.892307692 206497 10.90	2 640.43940584 09090909	10.297215071	40.48677744	1359.2465753	7.8571428571
Min 0.42965	5.1923076923	3 22.5 25392127	0.44326241135	5.291005291	193.49433962	3.8235294118
Range	18.7	617.93940584	9.8539526597	35.195772149	1165.7522357	4.0336134453
STDEV	6.0313665283	176.6645739	3.2653433921	11.213191511	387.28660089	1.5565258493
VAR	36.377382198	31210.37167	10.662467468	125.73566386	149990.91123	2.4227727196
0.02512	528961 9.355	92257538		FCC021 0 02017	CCC220 0 12222	502110
0 03911	-0.13	566976895 0.06262	38721	566931 0.02917	000220 0.13232	592116
LCL(14)	7.9680232558	46.606557377	0.92165898618	6.789480831	293.91763464	3.5555555556
Median	12.719101124	4 75.222222222 89570552	2.3792529146	16.010922179	621.71449461	4.75
UCL(54) 0.90561	16.026041667 22449 6.429	7 126.333333333 95874822	4.6662274923	26.64824319	1115.0943396	7
Programm	ing Language					
Old Style	12.877863731	81.129334583	1.8394997664	9.7491763627	1116.3017609	4.6326671261
Average	14.450789198	104.90619265	3.8321678418	13.924896333	1082.6246124	4.989121986
Max	32.440433213	622.57285932	35.142857143	50.571428571	9122.2304833	14.235294118
Min	6.8779527559	20.842105263	0	0	0	2.4838709677
Range	25.562480457	601.73075406	35.142857143	50.571428571	9122.2304833	11.75142315
STDEV	5.6353888182	94.314214085	6.3467045348	11.790318061	1612.6498262	2.3791420272
0.35567 VAR	31.757607132	8895.1709785	40.280658452	139.01159997	2600639.4618	5.6603167854
0.12650 Detection	0.064	97613012 419003457 0.01958	607085 -0.14413	3339563 -0.31524	4791729 -0.60230	0130291
0.01821	718783 0.182	291633604 0.04055	562605	6 700 400004	202 01702404	
0.45052	631579 2.902	46.606557377 21372328	0.92165898618	6.789480831	293.91763464	3.5555555556
Median 0.60769	12.719101124 230769 4.188	4 75.222222222 39570552	2.3792529146	16.010922179	621.71449461	4.75
UCL(54) 0.90561	16.026041667 22449 6.429	2 126.333333333 95874822	4.6662274923	26.64824319	1115.0943396	7
Modern 0.61961	11.31612447 741016 4.736	67.800847458 68798565	3.4207608294	17.074814648	641.17565056	5.4332372719
Average 0.66354	13.473696672 001699 4.816	2 126.67368564 56126943	3.7080223587	19.195083273	756.82003224	6.0525092942
Max 2.13414	63.63636363636 63415 15 3	6 826.67368564 11850312	16.337644656	50.704225352	2494.75	20
Min 0 125	2.727272727273	3 14.75	0	0	0	1.7777777778
Range 2.00914	60.909090909 63415 14.20) 811.92368564)2900896	16.337644656	50.704225352	2494.75	18.222222222

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STDEV 10.803076168 142.25085564 3.5547559659 12.167837105 514.31063649 3.3197013408 0.36655534873 2.7964083389 VAR 116.70645468 20235.30593 12.636289977 148.05625981 264515.43081 11.020416992 0.13436282368 7.8198995979 -0.08059040346 -0.17417810551 0.27753622117 0.05361604473 -0.02370477557 Detection 0.2509410674 0.02090741339 0.15492347211 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293.91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621.71449461 4.75 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33333333 4.6662274923 7 26.64824319 1115.0943396 0.9056122449 6.4295874822

Bin Prep/D Prep/Conduct	efect ROI	Prep/Ma	j	Maj/KSI	_OC	Min/KSI	LOC	Lines/C	onduct	Defects/Sess
Embedded	13.1426	96449 54126	73.6819	81982	4.358342	21024	20.0758	58711	542.361	66815
Average 14.621	852651 4 99650	118.7682	29566	4.57040	15179	18.6395	66375	628.312	77051	5.8184943814
Max 63.636	363636	818.7682	29566	35.1428	57143	50.7042	25352	2494.75		20
Min 2.8736	263736	14.75		0		0		0		1.7777777778
Range 60.762	737262	804.0182	29566	35.1428	57143	50.7042	25352	2494.75		18.22222222
STDEV 9.9359	2 83428	128.6756	5638	6.02816	38248	13.5948	37168	529.750	48826	3.3551214522
VAR 98.722	236099 8 03315	16557.42	24546	36.3387	59099	184.819	59762	280635.	57981	11.256839959
Detection 0 21503690769	-0.0167	350565	0.05244	372812	0.527557	789397	0.20472	601768	0.09662	838615
LCL(14) 7.9680	232558	46.60655	57377	0.92165	898618	6.78948	0831	293.917	63464	3.555555556
Median 12.719	101124 4 18895	75.22222	22222	2.37925	29146	16.0109	22179	621.714	49461	4.75
UCL(54) 16.026 0.9056122449	041667 6.42958	126.3333 74822	33333	4.66622	74923	26.6482	4319	1115.09	43396	7
Organic 11 174	070601	76 33963	2642	1 /0835	28097	8 73734	25773	1251 63	16351	4 6628787879
0.59652744051	4.35546	42939	2042	2.47251	20037	12 4022	20110	1231.03		4.0020707079
Average 12.859 0.65002677706	4.56380	81439	05912	2.47251	75993	13.4033	/ 3 3	1377.92	98837	5.0808494929
Max 30.961 1.2790697674	538462 9.75717	629.4826 43929	52579	12.7782	35779	34.7840	15531	9122.23	04833	10.142857143
Min 2.7272 0.125	727273 1.62953	20 92127		0.31786	395423	0.75798	327547	292.938	38863	2.6666666667
Range 28.234 1.1540697674	265735 8.12763	609.4826 51802	62579	12.4603	71825	34.0260	32256	8829.29	20947	7.4761904763
STDEV 6.0098 0.28393841683	91557 1.92746	109.7384 48915	708	2.51643	2598	8.80033	76734	1714.49	14901	2.047073952
VAR 36.118 0.08062102455	796527 3.71512	12042.53 09081	81974	6.33243	30204	77.4459	43166	2939481	1.0695	4.190511765
Detection 0.02699964764	0.01216 -0.02928	187966 3817282	-0.19168 0.04687	398646 373764	-0.23510	591741	-0.36619	624485	-0.76710	0624523
LCL(14) 7.9680	232558 2.90213	46.60655 72328	57377	0.92165	898618	6.78948	0831	293.917	63464	3.555555556
Median 12.719 0.60769230769	101124 4.18895	75.22222 70552	22222	2.37925	29146	16.0109	22179	621.714	49461	4.75
UCL(54) 16.026 0.9056122449	041667 6.42958	126.3333 74822	33333	4.66622	74923	26.6482	4319	1115.09	43396	7
Organization Turc										
Commercial10.85	0646805	68.45836	67683	1.97152	42337	10.4671	19592	1048.23	23878	5.0183606557
Average 11.671	345026 5.05947	86.91554 86598	46053	3.56190	40162	15.4294	29927	844.644	41889	5.6317269609
Max 32.625	15,3118	369.9155	54605	16.3376	44656	35.5680	10347	2494.75		11.375
Min 2.7272	727273	14.75		0		0		0		1.777777778
Range 29.897 1.0658284024	2.07253 727273 13.2393	355.1655 11452	54605	16.3376	44656	35.5680	10347	2494.75		9.597222222
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STDEV 6.4659939308 60.44355121 3.7650975561 9.5672023126 517.94645323 2.2914049475 0.20537799276 2.7343175175 VAR 41.809077514 3653.4228829 14.175959607 91.531360091 268268.52841 5.2505366334 0.04218011991 7.4764922867 -0.0734481025 -0.23192967678 -0.10892687102 -0.27909770434 -0.51940814663 Detection 0.13033739992 -0.0445912362 0.13062512876 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293.91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621.71449461 4.75 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33333333 4.6662274923 7 26.64824319 1115.0943396 0.9056122449 6.4295874822

Bin	Prep/Defect	Prep/Maj	Maj/KSLOC	Min/KSLOC	Lines/Conduct	Defects/Sess
Prep/Co	nduct ROI	07 641744549	2 2212201757	19 772240940	509 94241070	4 5252607005
0.66892	180297 3.64761	69772	5.2512291757	10.773340049	506.64241079	4.5552697095
Average	14.863279892	137.33311323	4.141917977	23.598323034	560.40319419	5.5548114633
0.74676 Max	373552 3.75324 26.176470588	10689 621.66644656	10.452961672	50.704225352	1549.4230769	20
1.38942 Min	30769 6.42958 5.8653846154	74822 48.636363636	0.54406964091	8.5106382979	153.41389728	2.4838709677
0.33484 Range	162896 1.45912 20.311085973	38358 573.03008293	9.9088920311	42.193587054	1396.0091796	17.516129032
1.05458	14479 4.97046	36464				
SIDEV 0.34112	4.5834869399 482584 1.22966	113.04391679 18753	2.9822799517	12.291898719	366.31246886	4.1180673871
VAR	21.008352528	12778.927123	8.8939937106	151.09077412	134184.82484	16.958479005
0.11636 Detection	614681 1.51206 0.24355	83275 577393 0.20075	190872 0.22699	444685 0.13914	102968 0.13744	728766 -
0.01009	601467 0.12809	087602 -0.15364	4958153			
LCL(14) 0.45052	7.9680232558 631579 2.90213	46.606557377 72328	0.92165898618	6.789480831	293.91763464	3.5555555556
Median	12.719101124	75.22222222	2.3792529146	16.010922179	621.71449461	4.75
UCL(54)	16.026041667	126.33333333	4.6662274923	26.64824319	1115.0943396	7
0.90561	22449 6.42958	74822				
Gov	14 252067743	75 86163522	3 3732179226	14 581918986	842 55014896	5 2350515464
0.89836	146971 4.98652	9961	5.5752775220	11.301310300	012.00011000	5.2550515101
Average 0.92720	16.962980423 586345 5.41072	146.29068191 82459	3.7815151162	12.444012857	1350.5177701	5.3595680636
Max	63.636363636	846.29068191	35.142857143	50.571428571	9122.2304833	14.235294118
Min	6.7692307692	20.842105263	0	0	0	1.83333333333
0.39451	476793 1.10894	94163	25 142057142		0122 2204022	12 401060795
1.73963	15736 9.74022	67557	55.142657145	50.571426571	9122.2304633	12.401960785
STDEV	12.943143303	184.20054018	7.9350786916	13.933569839	2077.0421635	2.7892470561
VAR	167.52495857	33929.839004	62.965473841	194.14436847	4314104.1491	7.7798991398
0.22549 Detection	782052 7.85983 0.00696	15355 975038 0.19008	284655 0.26485	81127 -0.0719	0740251 -0.26893	3353259
0.19332	89379 0.62687	276024 0.22564	588131			
LCL(14)	7.9680232558 631579 2.90213	46.606557377 72328	0.92165898618	6.789480831	293.91763464	3.555555556
Median	12.719101124	75.222222222	2.3792529146	16.010922179	621.71449461	4.75
0.60769 UCL(54)	230769 4.18895 16.026041667	70552 126.333333333	4.6662274923	26.64824319	1115.0943396	7
0.90561	22449 6.42958	74822				
Annual						
1992	15.485466914 71414 4 25557	107.00854701	3.2592344977	19.262911583	713.44153693	5.575862069
Average	16.302940833	102.0739189	3.2586981498	18.797537927	972.58352067	5.9188683646
1.06366 Max	00607 4.95509 32 440433213	7305	4 6662274923	27 94246816	2127 8688525	9.6
1.70060	56018 7.15191	47857				
Min 0 73523	6.8779527559 294509 2 81289	64.703703704 41836	1.3867488444	11.658962506	462.53068134	3.6956521739
Range	25.562480457	220.7579703	3.2794786479	16.283505654	1665.3381712	5.9043478261
0.96537	265671 4.33902	06021				

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STDEV 10.516182291 43.67251233 1.1775536233 6.1769387261 2.0996720415 636.95845679 0.38608602389 1.7325400556 VAR 110.59008999 1907.2883332 1.3866325358 38.154572026 405716.07568 4.408622682 0.14906241784 3.0016950442 Detection 0.39875247126 0.34311003896 0.23446253273 0.16379212401 -0.11170833924 0.29240176423 0.9277546553 0.01857507405 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293.91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621.71449461 4.75 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 4.6662274923 7 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33 26.64824319 1115.0943396 0.9056122449 6.4295874822

Bin Prep/Defect Prep/Maj Maj/KSLOC Min/KSLOC Lines/Conduct Defects/Sess Prep/Conduct ROI 11.561200924 76.427480916 3.9976807348 22.429735421 651.6871064 6.0985915493 1993 0.82963208485 5.2010869565 Average 13.059047899 114.00316138 17202.501047 100006.62781 791.69340384 6.5777800631 0.91852712853 4.9774994999 14.235294118 19.051724138 397.00316138 290000 2494.75 Мах 54000 1.7519305019 6.4873902745 Min 7.9680232558 50.759259259 0.20042088386 4.2589437819 0.05410279531 2.696969697 0.53262518968 2.378768021 Range 11.083700882 346.24390212 53999.799579 289995.74106 2494.6958972 11.538324421 1.2193053122 4.1086222535 STDEV 4.2419585972 97.783905834 1035.3030469 24801.057948 139815.38939 4.5151263653 0.51846225427 1.7031350109 19548343110 17.99421274 VAR 9561.6922402 615092475.35 1071852.399 20 386366095 0.2688031091 2.9006688655 Detection 0.01514652429 -0.14377159754 0.43138152929 0.32324951766 -0.03650535991 0.44435800852 0.47746105403 0.28642689986 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293,91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621.71449461 475 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 7 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33 4.6662274923 26.64824319 1115.0943396 0.9056122449 6.4295874822 1994 13.877348066 84.288590604 4.6376992032 23.530876494 471.31540342 5.5521472393 0.76766503667 4.3507728483 Average 14.66112834 86.345830546 3.5346219018 16.85664016 428.78161826 5.1337189127 0.72069149965 4.1603221553 18.368421053 202.67916388 Мах 8.6225479629 35.568010347 784.12844037 7.3214285714 0.91984304933 5.0367764631 12.029268293 61.65 0 0 0.2 3.7307692308 Min 0.57798165138 2.9021372328 Range 6.33915276 141.02916388 8.6225479629 35.568010347 783.92844037 3.5906593406 0.34186139795 2.1346392303 STDEV 2.4291778739 20.793087336 3.2676301775 14.180684433 296.1144664 1.5490489739 0.13973156534 0.92098399837 VAR 5.900905143 432.35248097 10.677406977 201.09181099 87683.777213 2.3995527236 0.01952491035 0.84821152526 0.11375552689 0.1435915715 0.60205312085 0.37869468751 0.1831467255 Detection 0.28550791839 0.34275007973 0.04554471623 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293.91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621,71449461 4.75 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33 4.6662274923 26.64824319 1115.0943396 7 0.9056122449 6.4295874822 1995 12.242280946 76.942307692 1.4121992287 7.4634235462 1451.5033148 4,400244798 0.65715522905 4.4174333006 Average 12.625028943 108.54697955 5.933867828 16.754776474 1263.4566276 4.972037282 0.74108932044 5.3330746865 16.698795181 455.04697955 35.142857143 50.571428571 3060 8.83333333333 Max 1.3894230769 10.849176172 8.7894736842 24.62601626 0.6197981229 1.4064697609 206.28683694 2.9 Min 0.39451476793 1.9736842105 7.9093214968 430.42096329 34.52305902 49.16495881 Range 2853.7131631 5 93333333333 0.99490830897 8.8754919615 STDEV 2.3114754864 97.690619527 11.156209021 15.509910309 895.70837681 1.8643587491

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0.31246005055 3.0232112522 VAR 5.3429189243 9543.4571436 124.46099972 240.5573178 802293.49629 3.4758335454 0.09763128319 9.1398062751
 Detection
 0.02160446177
 -0.05927035412
 -0.25808020567
 -0.43034121117
 -1.0105012541

 0.04934744243
 0.1025113675
 0.06442869705
 0.06442869705
 1.0105012541
 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293.91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621.71449461 4.75 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33 7 4.6662274923 26.64824319 1115.0943396 0.9056122449 6.4295874822

Bin Prep/Defect Prep/Maj Maj/KSLOC Min/KSLOC Lines/Conduct Defects/Sess Prep/Conduct ROI 12.37195122 97.548076923 1.7365604415 11.955550732 826.90369348 4.8520710059 1996 0.58364975262 3.6008282777 Average 14.261302962 175.22309208 1730.3434269 3018.2186221 1327.9005294 5.9131373796 0.62794205686 3.9346090366 23.892307692 692.88975875 19000 33000 9122.2304833 Мах 20 1.0261299435 9.5031055901 Min 7.6153846154 20.842105263 0.31786395423 0.75798327547 0.26905829596 2.5757575758 0.43996840442 1.4591238358 16.276923077 672.04765349 18999.682136 32999.242017 9121.961425 17.424242424 Range 0.58616153908 8.0439817543 STDEV 5.0409265726 174.19725371 5727.698417 9943.8400282 4.795074442 2613.2273401 0.20340483774 2.2071292155 25.41094071 98879954.506 VAR 30344.683199 32806529.156 6828957.1311 22 992738905 0.04137352801 4.871419374 Detection 0.2800812459 -0.04318223083 -0.17158388227 -0.20415152408 -0.24987967592 0.08199738544 -0.05728314648 -0.16690417063 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293.91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621.71449461 475 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 7 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33 4.6662274923 26.64824319 1115.0943396 0.9056122449 6.4295874822 1997 10.463196421 49.959223301 4.6196212808 17.437949068 540,99482368 4.8215686275 0.52024021352 5.2502493849 Average 12.795723549 70.260583685 5.6103188587 19.221919809 544.95956847 5.3495069615 0.57681783583 5.4741849518 30.961538462 271.51058369 Мах 16.337644656 45.950155763 853.69863014 10.142857143 1.1908284024 15.311850312 6.6168224299 14.75 1.6638935108 8.5106382979 251.76470588 2.4838709677 Min 0.33484162896 2.3497636732 Range 24.344716032 256.76058369 14.673751145 37.439517465 601.93392426 7.6589861753 0.85598677344 12.962086639 STDEV 6.5119374997 47.440043374 4.4837986888 10.009063486 202.72778814 2.7361687319 0.22143288543 3.5561315988 VAR 42.405329999 2250.5577153 20.104450682 100.18135188 41098.556083 7.4866193295 0.04903252275 12.646071948 -0.31686874936 -0.28000044401 0.59723234154 0.07190075869 0.09829289467 Detection 0.07313041496 -0.1951299706 0.30035393339 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293,91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621,71449461 4.75 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33 4.6662274923 26.64824319 1115.0943396 7 0.9056122449 6.4295874822 1998 8.2382851446 52.630573248 2.3241010762 12.523500067 843.53381894 5.7314285714 0.42991675338 4.931776007 Average 10.51824683 76.825418673 1771.3845149 12243.932528 798.80036112 5.5723584585 0.44822210568 5.0318213057 Max 32.625 250.82541867 23000 159000 1690.7908163 11.375 0.82075471698 10.909090909 2.7272727273 0.92165898618 4.399323181 0.11111111111 1.7777777778 Min 20 0.125 2.0725388601 29.897727273 22999.078341 158995.60068 Range 230.82541867 1690.6797052 9.597222222 0.69575471698 8.8365520489 STDEV 7.9587717223 54.008419099 6378.405282 44094.711311 435.28817925 2.4186942474

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0.17166483978 2.5261406373 VAR 63.342047328 2916.9093336 40684053.942 1944343565.6 189475.799 5.8500818623 0.02946881722 6.3813865196
 Detection
 -0.28335959297
 -0.55604402673
 -0.01490637968
 -0.17555387379
 -0.27013142095

 0.33762458472
 -0.39148531874
 0.21013484617
 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293.91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621.71449461 4.75 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33 7 4.6662274923 26.64824319 1115.0943396 0.9056122449 6.4295874822

Bin Prep/Defect Prep/Maj Maj/KSLOC Min/KSLOC Lines/Conduct Defects/Sess Prep/Conduct ROI Industry Type Telecomm 11.578378378 112.73684211 2.1131068231 18.461880665 865.95505618 6.9811320755 0.8595505618 4.3634009495 Average 10.65570474 157.21536797 3.5939095786 20.482505846 826.30952386 8.4133333333 0.77086385958 5.4851563857 Max 14.861111111 641.5487013 7.33333333333 31.090723751 1549.4230769 20 1.3894230769 10.909090909 5.1923076923 22.5 0.54406964091 16.010922179 360 3 Min 0.40744274809 2.593238062 9.6688034187 619.0487013 Range 6 7892636924 15 079801572 1189 4230769 17 0.98198032881 8.315852847 STDEV 4.5112354557 187.48554501 3.023153227 6.2404415432 6.6669312447 472.84460753 0.42156118665 3.1892371195 20.351245336 35150.829589 9.139455434 223582.02287 VAR 38.943110654 44.447972222 0.17771383409 10.171233404 -0.1416403997 -0.07117151384 0.12345824094 -0.29743543503 Detection 0.4706076531 0.70091048706 0.5425012213 0.04912208201 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293.91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621.71449461 4.75 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33 4.6662274923 26.64824319 1115.0943396 7 0.9056122449 6.4295874822

11.972861842 74.280612245 1.7482673422 9.0981259644 1213.3225108 Transport 5.3100436681 0.65652056277 4.547162107 Average 12.71763751 102.05920599 2.2340136 11.623458586 2035.8014082 4.7943308839 0.58452126405 4.3094078759 Max 18.368421053 385.05920599 4.945498587 27.94246816 9122.2304833 7.8571428571 0.82469318663 7.1985885121 6.9681818182 31.285714286 0.20042088386 0.75798327547 462.53068134 2.696969697 Min 0.42965246637 2.378768021 8659.699802 Range 11.400239235 353.7734917 5 1601731601 4.7450777031 27,184484885 0.39504072026 4.8198204911 1.7660027747 STDEV 3.437234436 80.53461829 8.6176290078 2939.3130588 1.5972073629 0.12513857612 1.570909967 11.814580568 6485.8247431 3.1187658003 VAR 74.263529716 8639561.2579 2.5510713602 0.01565966323 2.4677581245 -0.0117835895 -0.09269704192 -0.16846204208 -0.34802991116 -0.72045071157 Detection 0.21512897329 0.1011316582 0.10117906713 0.92165898618 6.789480831 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 293.91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621.71449461 4.75 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33 4.6662274923 26.64824319 1115.0943396 7 0.9056122449 6.4295874822

Financial 11.060845516 74.158940397 1.5980154976 0.58493522775 4.3907455013 Average 13.058775918 92.522099685 3.2869038313 0.59553137545 4.2625168714 30.961538462 Max 293,77209969 12,778235779 1.1908284024 7.435530086 5.8653846154 34.451612903 0 70564761418 6 3973534903 Min 0.37841191067 2.3497636732 Range 25.096153847 259.32048678 12.072588165 0.81241649173 5.0857664128

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9.116096355

15.561778515

34.784015531

28.386662041

1184.6076055

788.98464487

1710,1273941

292 93838863

1417,1890055

NSQE

4.6525735294

5.1541532878

10.142857143

2 722222222

7,4206349208
STDEV 6.4008766514 53.136201464 3.2563577691 9.2677008216 2.1423701033 386.35691863 0.2172771633 1.5621842727 VAR 40.971221906 2823.455906 10.60386592 85.890278519 149271.66858 4.5897496594 0.04720936569 2.4404197018 Detection -0.01330982944 -0.20585043231 -0.20852920065 -0.34712505765 -0.68548242814 0.02400393297 -0.05448863533 0.05686841396 LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293.91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621.71449461 4.75 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 7 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33 4.6662274923 26.64824319 1115.0943396 0.9056122449 6.4295874822

Bin I Prep/Cor	Prep/Defect nduct ROI	Prep/Maj	Maj/KSLOC	Min/KSLOC	Lines/Conduct	Defects/Sess
Manufact	10.160243408	47.933014354	6.6271363795	24.637727114	425.12244439	6.3612903226
0.562682 Average 0.525149	54325 5.73215 11.915031714 71482 6.18972	60.127599638 67265	2880.6655117	19891.967213	528.26904873	6.3209120464
Max 30.842552	32.625 02629 15.3118	234.12759964 350312	23000	159000	1115.0943396	11.375
Min 2 0.125	2.7272727273 2.07253	14.75 388601	1.0152284264	4.399323181	0.11111111111	1.777777778
Range 2 0.717552	29.897727273 02629 13.2393	219.37759964 311452	22998.984772	158995.60068	1114.9832285	9.5972222222
STDEV 9	9.5777428641 39189 4.05455	51.449742676 57149	8129.4404936	56208.134312	349.45235377	3.1318320904
VAR 9	91.73315837 14101 16.4394	2647.0760215 133674	66087802.74	3159354362.8	122116.94755	9.8083722426
Detection -0.34228531919 -0.31758766654 1.1325697012 0.43442734714 0.23939933949						
0.520723 LCL(14)	93098 -0.1028 7.9680232558	46.606557377	0.92165898618	6.789480831	293.91763464	3.5555555556
Median	12.719101124	75.222222222	2.3792529146	16.010922179	621.71449461	4.75
UCL(54) 0.905612	16.026041667 2449 6.42958	126.33 374822	4.6662274923	26.64824319	1115.0943396	7
Medical	7.2421524664	48.939393939	1.6158648549	9.3034643163	1499.8164015	6.96875
Average	7.4834646392	89.956573501	1.5007043696	13.0617762	1358.736501	7.085
0.570887 Max 8	30252 5.46211 8.7894736842 67347 7 75613	228.62324017 211025	2.3792529146	20.461575065	1690.7908163	9.6
Min 0.201262	6.2602040816	26.673913043	0.6197981229	6.789480831	784.3373494	5
Range 202	2.5292696026 91837 4 22921	201.94932713	1.7594547917	13.672094234	906.4534669	4.6
STDEV 0.264316	1.0819106165 51603 2.17122	49.850855065	0.86045849502	6.8076531392	425.93872546	2.0531845184
VAR 0.069863	1.1705305821 22064 4.71421	2485.1077507	0.74038882165	46.344141264	181423.79785	4.2155666667
Detection -0.32966139062 -0.67963368904 -0.20376937202 -0.33769061851 -1.0693357057						
0.697311 LCL(14) 0.450526	04651 -0.2517 7.9680232558 31579 2.90213	46.606557377 46.22	0.92165898618	6.789480831	293.91763464	3.555555556
Median	12.719101124 30769 4 18895	75.222222222	2.3792529146	16.010922179	621.71449461	4.75
UCL(54) 0.905612	16.026041667 2449 6.42958	126.33 374822	4.6662274923	26.64824319	1115.0943396	7
Defense 0.773519	14.538855282 50881 4.30258	83.651941098 352923	4.1252712904	19.610225371	537.96494355	4.7596899225
Average	16.499238064 54985 4 64821	140.05872838	3810.6332551	19114.878166	731.2642072	5.0096903636
Max 0	63.63636363636 3415 10 8491	840.05872838	54000	290000	3060	14.235294118
Min 0.334841	6.7692307692 62896 1 10894	20.842105263	0.43706293706	1.4064697609	0.05410279531	1.83333333333
Range	56.867132867	819.21662312	53999.562937	289998.59353	3059.9458972	12.401960785
STDEV	10.427930258	150.03939416	11575.625361	63624.754419	736.9570696	2.4285137672

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NSQE

0.42953861556 2.4874972821 VAR 108.74172947 22511.8198 133995102.49 4048109374.9 543105.72243 5.8976791175 0.18450342226 6.1876427287
 Detection
 0.10576945682
 0.22566442699
 0.46540567745
 0.18128023017
 0.10198260585

 0.05514241933
 0.35547719307
 0.03189385051
 0.10198260585
 0.10198260585
LCL(14) 7.9680232558 46.606557377 0.92165898618 6.789480831 293.91763464 3.555555556 0.45052631579 2.9021372328 Median 12.719101124 75.22222222 2.3792529146 16.010922179 621.71449461 4.75 0.60769230769 4.1889570552 UCL(54) 16.026041667 126.33 7 4.6662274923 26.64824319 1115.0943396 0.9056122449 6.4295874822