Research Ethics for Studying Open Source Projects

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23.02.2008
QDA Tool Gmanda

From: Gervase Markham <gerv@4e100dF1e7HfHuPfC6afuB@public.gmane.org>
To: developers-smth8769W9q9NUC7Puyx@public.gmane.org
Date: 31.10.2007 13:12:51
Subj: Re: New language discussion?

Benton, Kevin wrote:

> As we all know, Bugzilla is implemented in Perl and the codebase is
> getting better as we move to a more object-oriented model where
> persistence is done at the proper layers.

Indeed. Several years ago, we asked the same question - rewrite or incrementally fix? The rewrite, Mixie's Bugzilla 3, didn't happen. Myk argued for incrementally fixing, and the code now is much better than it
Maintainer to committer:

„...next time I see crap like this I'm going to...
[...] I'm going to go postal on the next maintainer who doesn't understand what "merge window" and "fixes only" means.“
Can I publish this?
Re: [GIT PULL][RETRY] KVM updates for Linux 2.6.21-rc2 [LWN.net]
6 Mar 2007 ... I want *FIXES*ONLY* by now, and next time I see crap like this I'm going
to ignore it until you fix me a pull that contains fixes only, ...

lwn.net/Articles/224886/ - 13k - Cached - Similar pages
From a paper about introducing an information manager role at GNU Classpath:

„I do not like wikis.„, which is not further elaborated upon by the author.“
Your search - classpath "I do not like wikis." - did not match any documents.
Re: Get ready for FOSDEM 2006
classpath. <-- Thread -->; <-- Date --> ... I hate Wikis. OK, I'll do it. :-( Andrew. Get ready for FOSDEM 2006 Mark Wielaard ...
www.mail-archive.com/classpath@gnu.org/msg11949.html - 6k - Cached - Similar pages
If individuals can be identified easily from research results...
Is there an ethical problem?
How about the other research methods in Open Source?
Mockus et al. 2002: Two Case Studies of Open Source Software Development: Apache and Mozilla
### Table 2: Respondent’s primary open source projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Multiple occur.</th>
<th>Single occurrences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linux (21)</td>
<td>AbiWord</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midgard (4)</td>
<td>Genes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perl (3)</td>
<td>LTSP</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Analog</td>
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<td>Gtk</td>
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<td>Explorer</td>
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<td>Hover</td>
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<td>Carnage</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cons</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>NetBSD</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vaxbb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tabindex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The COG Engine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respect for Persons

Benefice

Justice
Discussion Point:
What kind of data is public?
Discussion Point:
What might be damaging to participants?
Discussion Point:
Ethics review at your university?
Discussion Point:
What can we / must we do?
Thank you!

- What kind of data is public?
- What might be damaging to participants?
- Ethics review at your university?
- What can we / must we do?