A Systematic Literature Review on Code Comprehension using Eye Tracking Cameras

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Summary of the Review Studies

| ID | Base | Authors | Study | RQ | Туре | Publication venues | Year |
|----|------|-------------------------|---|--------------------------|----------------------|---|------|
| 13 | ACM | Begel, and Vrzakova | Eye Movements in Code Review | 1 • 2 • 3 • | Empirical | EMIS | 2018 |
| 44 | GS | Chandrika and Amudha | A fuzzy inference system to recommend skills for source code review using eye movement data | 1 ● 2 ① 3 ○ | Empirical | Journal of Intelligent & Fuzzy Systems | 2018 |
| 27 | IEEE | Fakhoury, S. et al. | The Effect of Poor Source Code Lexicon and Readability on Developers' Cognitive Load | 1 • 2 • 3 • | Empirical | ICPC | 2018 |
| 2 | GS | Nagaraj, S. | Enabling Eye Tracking to Study the Use of Software Artifacts on Code Summarization | 1 ● 2 ○ 3 ○ | Empirical | Doctoral dissertation | 2018 |
| 4 | ACM | Obaidellah et al. | A Survey on the Usage of Eye- Tracking in Computer Programming | 1 ● 2 ① 3 ○ | Literature Review | ACM Computing Surveys | 2018 |
| 74 | GS | Wrobel, M. | Applicability of Emotion Recognition and Induction Methods to | 1 ● 2 ● 3 ○ | Empirical | Applied Sciences | 2018 |

| | | | Study the Behavior of Programmers | | | | |
|-----|------|----------------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------|--|-------|
| 9 | GS | Abid et al. | Using developer eye movements to externalize the mental model used in code summarization tasks | 1 • 2 • 3 · O | Empirical | ACM Symposiu m on Eye Tracking Research & Application s (ETRA) | 2019a |
| 43 | GS | Abid et al. | Developer Reading Behavior While Summarizing Java Methods: Size and Context Matters | 1 ● 2 ① 3 ○ | Empirical | ICSE | 2019b |
| 1 | ACM | Blascheck, T. e Sharif, B. | Visually Analyzing Eye Movements on Natural Language Texts and Source Code Snippets | 1 ● 2 ① 3 ○ | Empirical | ETRA | 2019 |
| 124 | GS | Choma et al. | An Empirical Study of Test- Driven Development vs. Test-Last Development using Eye Tracking | 1 ● 2 ① 3 ○ | Empirical | Agile Methods: 10th Brazilian Workshop | 2019 |
| 9 | IEEE | Couceiro et al. | Spotting problematic code lines using nonintrusive programmers' biofeedback | 1 ● 2 ① 3 ○ | Empirical | ISSRE | 2019a |

| 2 | IEEE | Couceiro et al. | Pupillography as indicator of programmers' mental effort and cognitive overload | 1 ● 2 ① 3 ○ | Empirical | Internation al Conference on Dependabl e Systems and Networks (DSN) | 2019b |
|----|------|----------------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------|--|-------|
| 95 | GS | Hauser, F. et al. | EYE MOVEMENTS IN SOFTWARE MODELLING – WHAT DO THEY TELL US ABOUT HEURISTICS | 1 ● 2 ○ 3 ○ | Empirical | ICERI2019 proceeding s | 2019 |
| 60 | GS | Ishida, T., & Uwano, H. | Synchronized Analysis of Eye Movement and EEG during Program Comprehension | 1 ● 2 ● 3 ○ | Empirical | International Workshop on Eye Movements in Programmin g (EMIP) | 2019 |
| 11 | GS | Kaplan | THE ROLE OF EXPERTISE ON CODE REVIEW FOR SECURITY: AN EYE TRACKING STUDY | 1 ● 2 ○ 3 ○ | Empirical | Master's thesis | 2019 |
| 34 | GS | Nyqvist and Rutqvist | The Impact of Colour Themes on Code Readability | 1 ● 2 ○ 3 Φ | Empirical | - | 2019 |
| 48 | GS | Saddler, J. | Looks Can Mean Achieving: Understanding Eye Gaze Patterns of Proficiency in Code Comprehension | 1 ● 2 ○ 3 ○ | Empirical | ACM Symposium on Eye Tracking Research & Applications (ETRA) | 2019 |

| 142 | GS | Shakil et al. | CodeGazer: Making Code Navigation Easy and Natural with Gaze Input | 1 ● 2 ○ 3 ○ | Empirical | CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems | 2019 |
|-----|------|------------------------|--|---|-----------|--|------|
| 177 | GS | Vrzakova, H. | MACHINE LEARNING METHODS IN INTERACTION INFERENCE FROM GAZ | 1 • 2 • 3 O | Empirical | Doctoral dissertation | 2019 |
| 24 | IEEE | Zhang et al. | Exploring Eye Tracking Data on Source Code via Dual Space Analysis | 1 • 2 • 3 • • 3 • • • • • • • • • • • • • | Empirical | VISSOFT | 2019 |
| 3 | GS | Chandrika et al. | Identification and Classification of Expertise Using Eye Gaze— Industrial Use Case Study with Software Engineers | 1 • 2 ° 3 ° ° | Empirical | ICCIS | 2020 |
| 14 | ACM | De Oliveira, B. et al. | Atoms of Confusion: The Eyes Do Not Lie | 1 • 2 • 3 • | Empirical | SBES | 2020 |
| 10 | ACM | Dias et al. | Evaluating a Visual Approach for Understanding JavaScript Source Code | 1 ● 2 ① 3 ○ | Empirical | ICPC | 2020 |
| 115 | GS | Eiroa-Lledo et al. | Do Experienced Programmers put too Much Confidence in Comments? | 1 • 2 ° 3 ° | Empirical | International conference on software engineering & knowledge engineering | 2020 |

| 93 | GS | Fakhoury et al. | Measuring the impact of lexical and structural inconsistencies on developers' cognitive load during bug localization | 1 • 2 • 3 • • | Empirical | Empirical Software Engineerin g | 2020 |
|-----|------|-------------------------|--|---|----------------------|--|------|
| 163 | GS | Gralha et al. | Are there gender differences when interacting with social goal models? | 1 ● 2 ● 3 ○ | Empirical | Empirical Software Engineerin g | 2020 |
| 7 | GS | Ioannou et al. | Mining reading patterns from eye-tracking data: method and demonstration | 1 ● 2 Φ 3 ○ | Empirical | Software and Systems Modeling | 2020 |
| 15 | IEEE | Saddler et al. | Studying Developer Reading Behavior on Stack Overflow during API Summarization Tasks | 1 ● 2 Φ 3 ○ | Empirical | Internation al Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution and Reengineer ing (SANER) | 2020 |
| 20 | GS | Sharafi, Z. et al. | A practical guide on conducting eye tracking studies in software engineering | 1 • 2 • 3 • • 3 • • • • • • • • • • • • • | Literature Review | Empirical Software Engineerin g | 2020 |
| 105 | GS | Ahrens and Schneider | Improving Requirements Specification Use by Transferring Attention with Eye Tracking Data | 1 • 2 ° 3 ° | Empirical | Information and Software Technology | 2021 |

| 13 | GS | Aljehane et al. | Determining Differences in Reading Behavior Between Experts and Novices by Investigating Eye Movement on Source Code Constructs During a Bug Fixing Task | 1 ● 2 ○ 3 ○ | Empirical | ACM Symposium on Eye Tracking Research and Applications | 2021 |
|-----|---------------|-----------------|--|-------------------|--------------|---|------|
| 8 | GS | Bryant, C. | ITRACE: AN INFRASTRUC TURE TO SUPPORT EYE- TRACKING STUDIES IN INTEGRATED DEVELOPMEN T ENVIRONMEN TS | 1 ● 2 ○ 3 ○ | Theoretica 1 | Doctoral dissertation | 2021 |
| 2 | Sprin- ger | Da Costa et al. | Evaluating refactorings for disciplining ifdef annotations: An eye tracking study with novices. | 1 • 2 • 3 • 3 • | Empirical | Empirical Software Engineerin g | 2021 |
| 16 | IEEE | Hijazi et al. | iReview: an Intelligent Code Review Evaluation Tool using Biofeedback | 1 • 2 • 3 O | Empirical | ISSRE | 2021 |
| 119 | GS | Huang, Y. | Understanding User Cognition: From Spatial Ability to Code Writing and Review | 1 ● 2 ● 3 ○ | Empirical | Doctoral dissertation | 2021 |

| 4 | GS | Jessup et al. | Using Eye- Tracking Data to Compare Differences in Code Comprehension and Code Perceptions between Expert and Novice Programmers | 1 • 2 ° 3 ° ° | Empirical | - | 2021 |
|-----|-----|----------------|--|---|-----------|--|------|
| 17 | ACM | Kather et al. | Through (Tracking) Their Eyes: Abstraction and Complexity in Program Comprehension | 1 • 2 • 3 • • 3 • • • • • • • • • • • • • | Empirical | ACM Transactions on Computing Education | 2021 |
| 24 | GS | Katona, J. | Analyse the Readability of LINQ Code using an Eye- Tracking-based Evaluation | 1 • 2 ° 3 • • | Empirical | Acta Polytechnic a Hungarica | 2021 |
| 110 | GS | Matzen et al. | Effects of Precise and Imprecise Value-Set Analysis (VSA) Information on Manual Code Analysis | 1 • 2 • 3 • • 3 • • • • • • • • • • • • • | Empirical | SAND2021 | 2021 |
| 15 | ACM | Sharafi et al. | Toward an Objective Measure of Developers' Cognitive Activities | 1 ● 2 ● 3 ○ | Empirical | ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodolog y | 2021 |
| 18 | ACM | Weber et al. | A Closer Look at Machine Learning Code | 1 • 2 • 3 • • | Empirical | Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems | 2021 |

| 29 | GS | Abbad- Andaloussi et al. | Estimating Developers' Cognitive Load at a Fine-grained Level Using Eye-tracking Measures | 1 • 2 • 3 • 0 | Empirical | ICPC | 2022 |
|-----|------|-----------------------------|---|---|-----------|--|------|
| 61 | GS | Aljehane, S. | EYE MOVEMENTS CHARACTERI ZING FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF EXPERTISE IN SOURCE CODE READING | 1 ● 2 ○ 3 ○ | Empirical | Doctoral dissertation | 2022 |
| 18 | IEEE | Hijazi et al. | Quality Evaluation of Modern Code Reviews Through Intelligent Biometric Program Comprehension | 1 • 2 • 3 O | Empirical | IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering | 2022 |
| 152 | GS | Lindberg | Exposing novice programmers to an expert's eye-gaze | 1 • 2 • 3 · O | Empirical | Master's thesis | 2022 |
| 37 | GS | Mondal et al. | Measuring code comprehension effort using code reading pattern | 1 • 2 • 3 • 3 • 3 | Empirical | - | 2022 |
| 33 | GS | Paltenghi et al. | EXTRACTING MEANINGFUL ATTENTION ON SOURCE CODE: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY OF DEVELOPER AND NEURAL MODEL CODE | 1 • 2 • 3 • • 3 • • • • • • • • • • • • • | Empirical | arXiv preprint | 2022 |

| 8 | | Peitek et al. | EXPLORATIO N Correlates of | | Empirical | ESEC/FSE | 2022 |
|-----|------|----------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------|--|------|
| | ACM | T CHEK Et al. | Programmer Efficacy and Their Link to Experience: A Combined EEG and Eye- Tracking Study | 1 • 2 • 3 • • | | | |
| 94 | GS | Rezaei Sepasi, E. | Analyzing comprehension of models of variable software systems with eye-tracking technologies | 1 • 2 • 3 · O | Empirical | Doctoral dissertation | 2022 |
| 21 | IEEE | Sharafi et al. | Eyes on Code: A Study on Developers' Code Navigation Strategies | 1 ● 2 ○ 3 ○ | Empirical | IEEE TRANSAC TIONS ON SOFTWAR E ENGINEER ING | 2022 |
| 101 | GS | Sorg et al. | Towards a Fine- grained Analysis of Cognitive Load During Program Comprehension | 1 ● 2 ○ 3 ○ | Empirical | IEEE International Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution and Reengineeri ng (SANER) | 2022 |
| 16 | ACM | Aljehane et al. | Studying Developer Eye Movements to Measure Cognitive Workload and Visual Effort for Expertise Assessment | 1 ● 2 ① 3 ○ | Empirical | ETRA | 2023 |

| 1 (ES E) | ACM | Da Costa et al. | Seeing confusion through a new lens: on the impact of atoms of confusion on novices' code comprehension | 1 • 2 • 3 • | Empirical | Empirical Software Engineering | 2023 |
|----------------|-----|-----------------|--|---|-----------|--|------|
| 5 | ACM | Homann et al. | An Eye Tracking Study on MISRA C Coding Guidelines | 1 • 2 • 3 • • | Empirical | ECSEE | 2023 |
| 10 | GS | Park et al. | An eye tracking study assessing the impact of background styling in code editors on novice programmers' code understanding | 1 • 2 • 3 • • 3 • • • • • • • • • • • • • | Empirical | ACM Conference on International Computing Education Research | 2023 |

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