

Business Case

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline our reasons for developing this software as part of a larger development process, namely in Python development.

Business Context

Since it is estimated around 90% of all software projects fail to meet the actual requirements of a user, it can be assumed that software development is increasingly being placed under the scope to try and ascertain what makes a good project as well as particular methods that make software projects successful.

Since it is imperative that companies that choose to develop software have successful lines of communication, identifying possible ways of improving the communication between developers, testers and users is being noted as an important part of the development process.

Extending on that, in the Software Development Life Cycle, projects spend most of their time in the maintenance part, before eventually being decommissioned. Creating a piece of software that will allow the tracking of communication, bugs and issues will aid the Python Development Community in their quest to perfect the software.

Product Description

This software takes the Python development repository, mailing lists and bug reports and creates a comprehensive top-down view of the communication between users, developers and testers. This software has a multi-user configuration to ensure the right people are receiving the right information and to filter out all the 'noise' around the repositories and bug reports. One giant feature of this product is modular design, allowing many parts to operate independently of each other at the back-end of the server, while the front-end is served information in a timely fashion. The Root user carries out administration and maintenance; allowing deep modifications to be made if needed, whereas minor users will see more limited views with less access.

Product Objectives

It is envisaged that this software will continue to evolve, allowing more integration with social media platforms and further analytics to be conducted on mailing data and issues list. With better hardware and more performance power, natural language processing could potentially be conducted on this data, allowing users to search information with greater accuracy.

Costs

Since Python is an open source project, no income is to be gained from use of this software, saving that of the altruistic value that will be placed, since this software is used in a wide variety of applications, from small scripts to larger scale deployments.

The cost of time for development and further maintenance of this software is

important factor to consider since it shouldn't be taxing to have to develop both this software and python side by side- instead a 'measure twice- cut once' philosophy should be taken, which is made much more easier in the planned modular design of said software. This will aid in community driven development, since the software will be required to evolve as computing, development communities and communication develops.

Benefits

This software endeavours to create clear communication channels between end-users, testers and developers. At this stage it is apparent that the traversing communications and bug reports is a difficult process, as such this software will provide a top-down perspective of the development process- especially when extra features are added down the track, which will create a more immersive experience. Not only that, this software will easily identify the big contributors to this project, allowing those developers to receive full recognition of their work.

Constraints

Currently finances, development team size and time are the greatest constraints. This software has the potential to be ever expanding, and as such a small set of requirements had to be agreed upon in order to deliver a working product.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this product can be readily modified in design and new features are easily added due to its segmental nature, but more time and effort will need to be allocated, which will require more hours of effort to be assigned to this project. That being said, a rudimentary working version is established.