

Empirical Software Engineering

Report 3: Analyzing and Comparing Case Studies

(20 Points, incl. 5 Points for Presentation)

You are responsible to complete a research task on identifying, analyzing and comparing case studies (observational studies) in software engineering. In this exercise, each group needs to review the case studies from your refined selection and classification, identify and choose at least FIVE case studies published at the venues (journal and conferences) in the year assigned to you. With reference to the lecture notes and readings, each group needs to extract the characteristics of these chosen case studies in terms of each element and step of case study methodology for reporting and further select TWO most typical or representative ones for class presentation. You need to synthesize and compare the individual case study results by tabulating them together. A report has to be compiled to present the summary, analysis and comparison.

PRESENTATIONS: classes on May 24 & 26, 2022 (odd followed by even #)

REPORT DEADLINE: 12:11am on (Monday) May 30, 2022

Your group report should include the following sections:

Section 1: Study Summary (5 points)

Provide an overview of case studies (or ethnographies) published in the assigned year and what difference from your initial identification. List all of them with full bibliographic information. Highlight at least FIVE of them with abstracts for analysis and comparison, elaborate the reasons for why they are chosen. Describe the problems (issues) you experienced and research knowledge gain with the study identification, selection, information extraction, analysis and comparison.

Section 2: Study Comparison (10 points)

Tabulate and compare the methodological characteristics of the selected case studies (or ethnographies) in a systematic, clear and comprehensive manner. You may consider formatting your presentation in a landscape orientation if needed.

The entire report should be no more than 20 pages (A4 size).

Assignment Deliverable:

The assignment deliverable should be submitted by the deadline. Each deliverable contains a cover page that clearly states the report number, task name, your assigned search years with group members' names and student IDs, and the presenter's name, together with the presentation slides in one package.