

Research Question: RQ 1.1 How disseminated is the concept of TD among practitioners?
Goal: Investigate how disseminated among professionals the concept of TD is
Expected Result:
Necessary Files: - RQ1.1_Analysis_COUNTRY-NAME_Execution_TDConceptDissemination.xlsx

Analysis Procedure

For answering this research question, we consider the participants' answers for Q9, which asks how familiar the participants were with the TD concept, and answers for Q11, which asks how close the McConnell definition is to the participants understanding of the TD term.

In order to analyze these questions, a researcher needs to carry out a quantitative analysis to count how many times each option presented in the questionnaire was selected by participants. In the end, we can generate a pie chart for each question and compare the data from both.

Example

We can see in Figure 1 (left side) that for each ten participants, six are somewhat familiar with the concept. On the other hand, a large portion of the participants (40%) reported that they had never heard of it.

After presenting the definition of TD adapted from McConnell and asking how close this was to his understanding of the TD term, most participants (80%) indicated that their understanding is close to or very close to the TD presented definition. This result seems to contradict the answers to the previous question, which indicated that 40% of the participants had never heard of it. However, the results suggest that, after being presented with a definition of the area, some of the participants who indicated that they had no previous exposure to the concept, actually had a personal intuition but were unsure about the terminology.

The results for these two questions also indicate that although TD is a research topic close to the software industry, the use of the term still needs to be expanded. We also noticed that a large part of the participants, regardless of their function or level of experience, have an understanding close or very close to the provided definition. This result suggests that the role performed by the professional and its level of experience do not impact on his/her perception about the definition of TD. This is, in some way, aligned to one of the "TD principles" which says that the concept of TD is intuitively easy to be understood by practitioners.

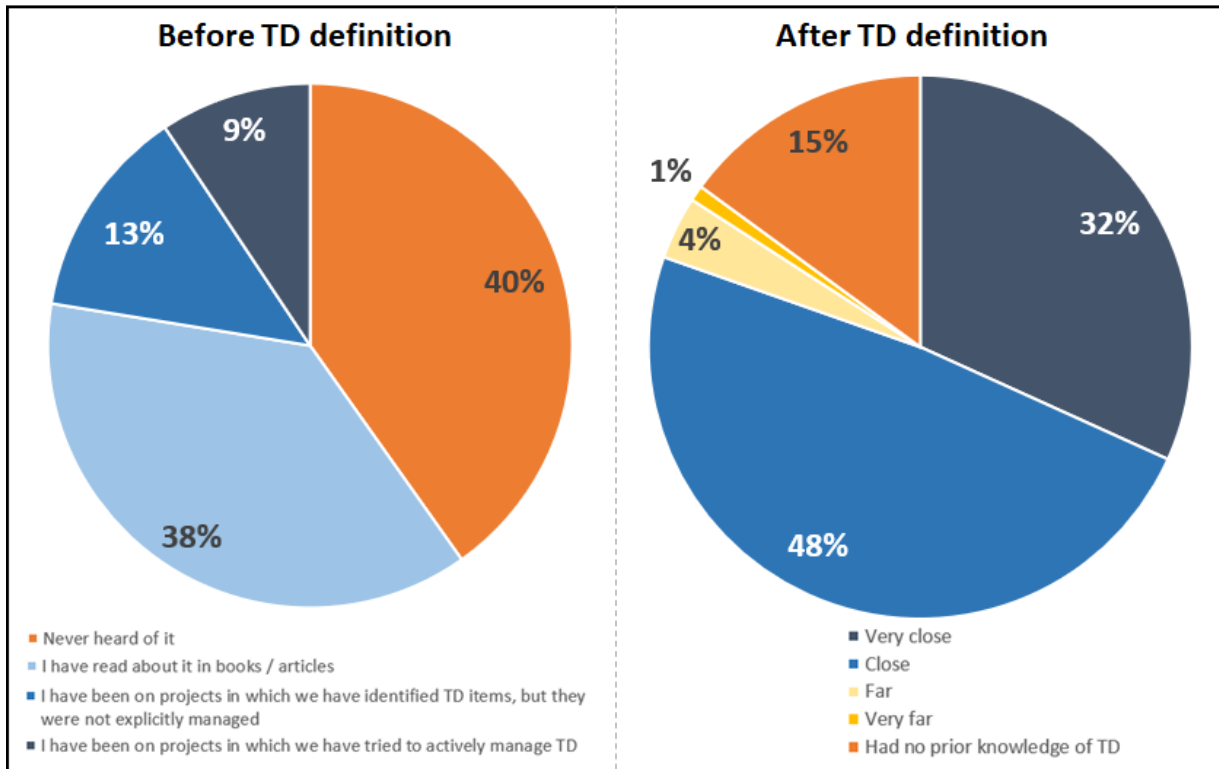


Figure 1. Participants' familiarity with TD concept