Butler et al 2009

We found statistically significant associations between flawed identifiers (i.e. violating at least one guideline) and code quality issues reported by FindBugs, a static analysis tool.

Lawrie et al. found identifier names composed of dictionary words are more easily recognised and understood than those composed of abbreviations, or single letters [7]

Buse and Weimer [5] developed a readability metric for Java and found correlation between the readability of methods in open source programs and the presence of defects found by FindBugs [9].

We created a new guideline, named Excessive Words, which defines identifiers composed of more than four words as flawed, to provide a sharper focus on linguistically complex identifiers

FindBugs examines Java bytecode for ‘bug patterns’. Some defects found by FindBugs can result in observable, aberrant runtime behaviour, while others are related to the maintainabilty of source code [11]