



# Pizza vs Pinsa: On the Perception and Measurability of Unit Test Code Quality

Giovanni Grano, Christian De Iaco, Fabio Palomba, Harald C. Gall

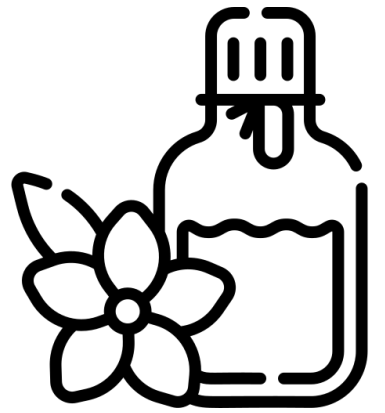


# first and foremost: what is a pinsa?

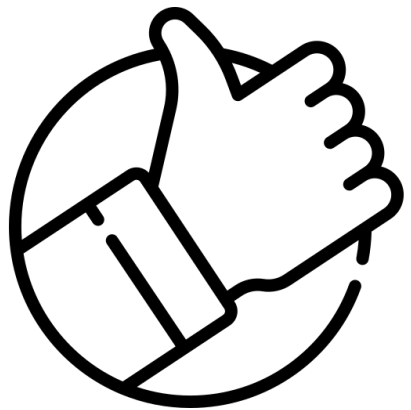




# motivation



essential asset to foster software quality



tests of good quality

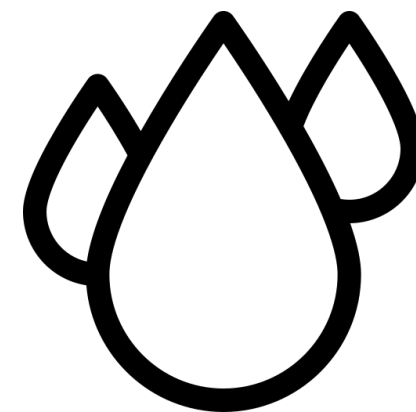


do existing metrics match developers' perception of test quality?

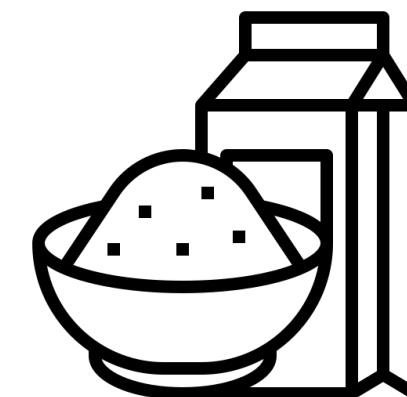
# right metrics



oil



water



flour

# goals and research questions



2 research questions

what are the features that influence unit test quality?

do existing metrics match developers' perception?

mixed-method research approach

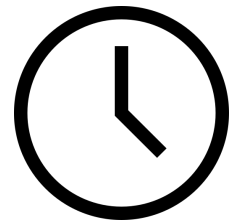
# RQ1: the practitioner's perspective



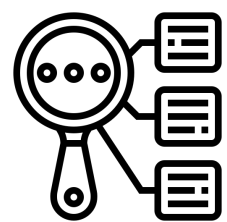
interviews



5 experts



~ 60 minutes



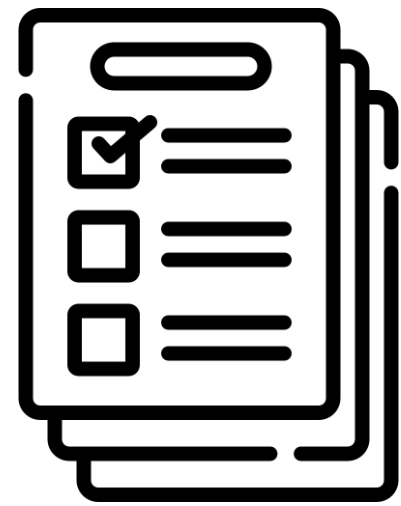
initial taxonomy

general discussion

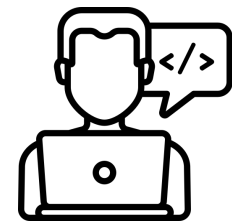
own definition of test quality

summarize measurable factors

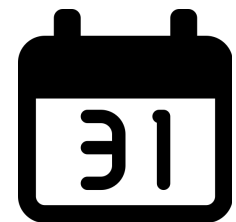
# RQ1: the practitioner's perspective



survey



70 developer



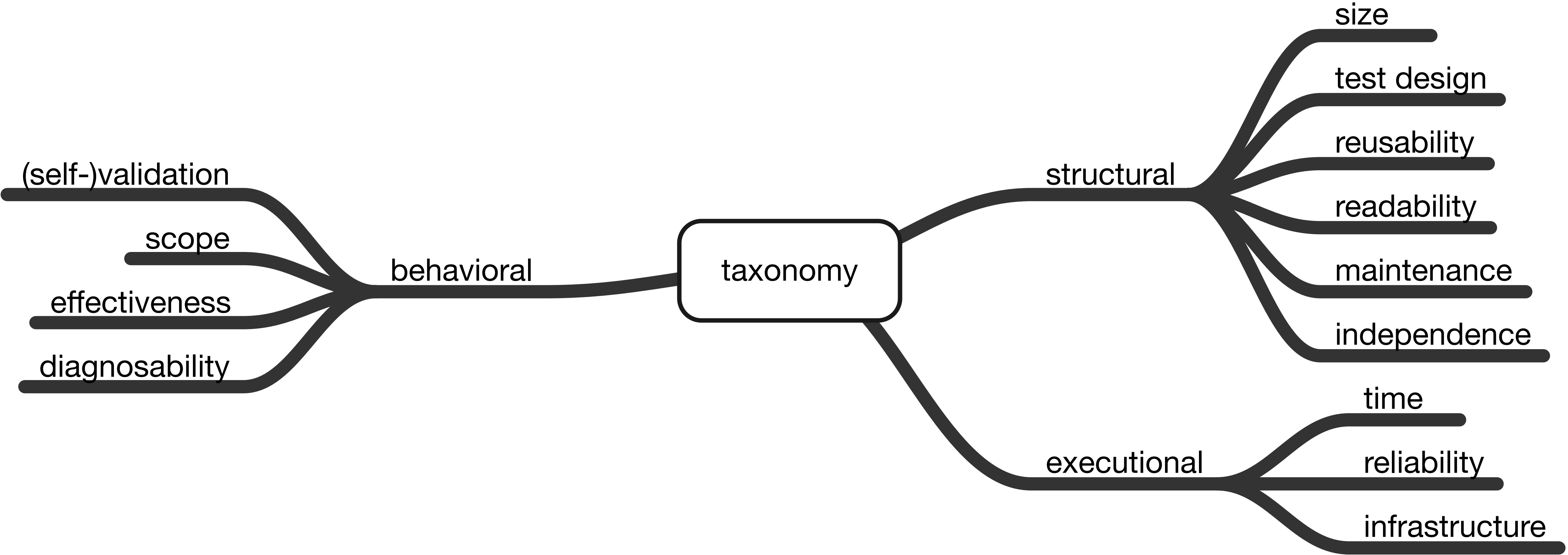
march 2020

confirm initial taxonomy

additional factors

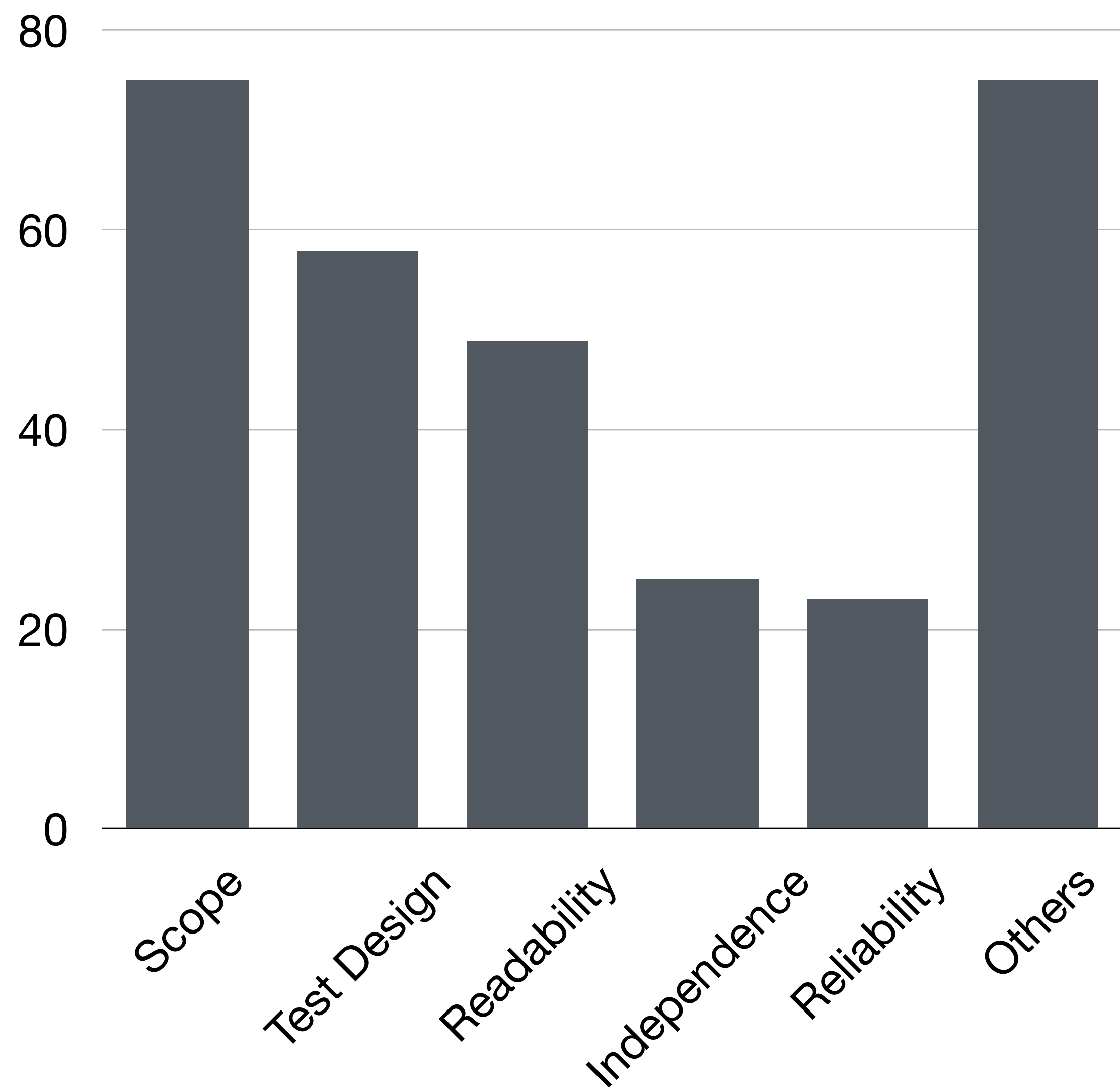
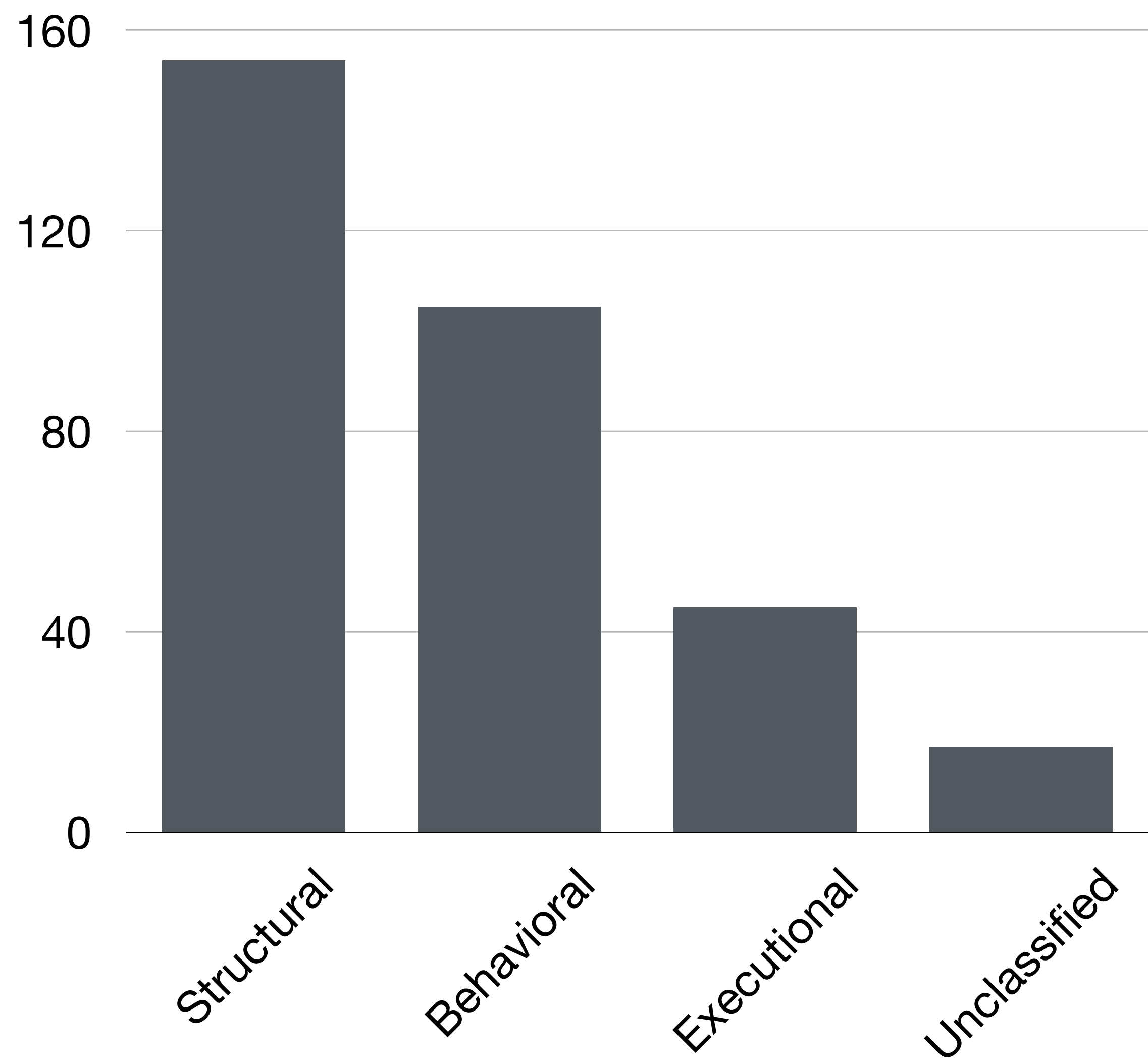
rate quality of test snippets

# RQ1: results



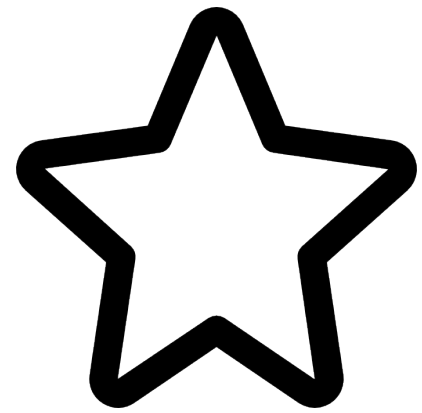


# RQ1: results

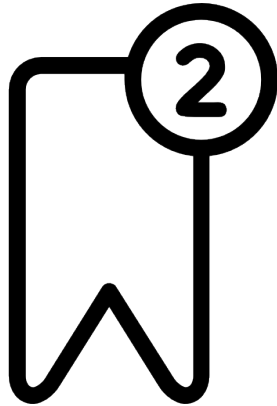




# RQ1: findings



multi-faceted concept



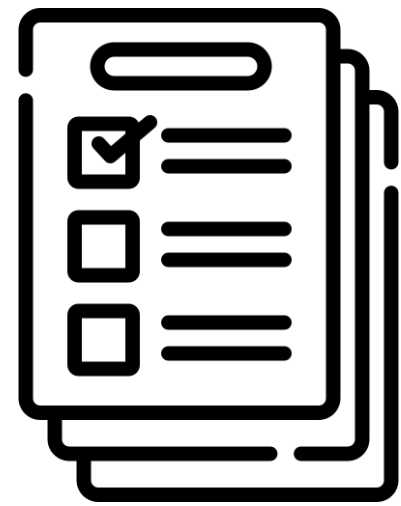
non-functional aspects



test code design



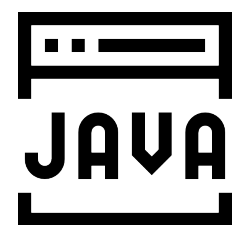
# RQ2: the research perspective



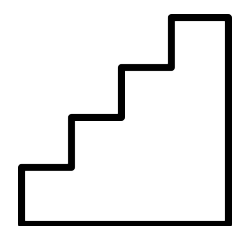
survey



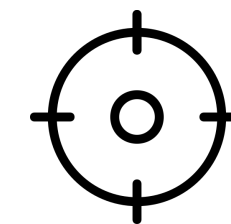
70 developer



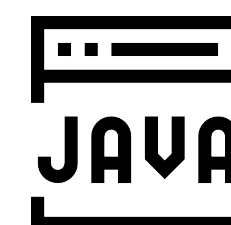
10 test code snippets



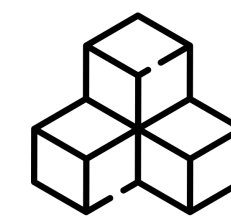
1-5 Likert scale



response variable:  
score on the Likert scale



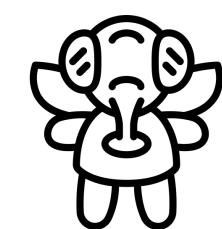
independent variables:  
11 metrics



proportional odds model



# RQ2: results

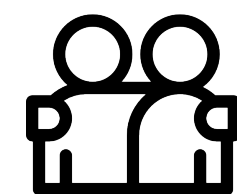


mutation score

v.poor | poor



p<0.001



coupling between objects

poor | fair

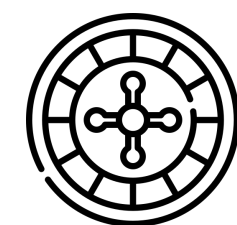


p<0.01

fair | good



p<0.05

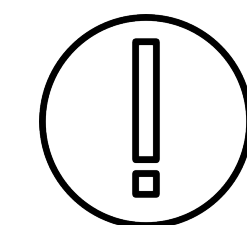


assertion roulette

good | v.good



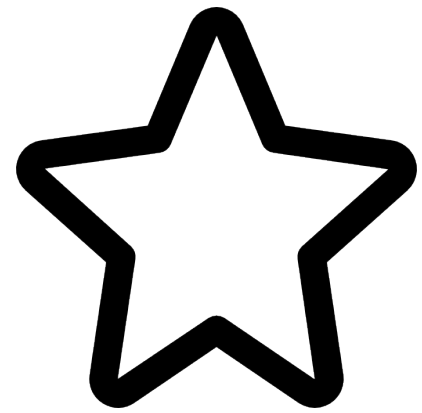
p<0.1



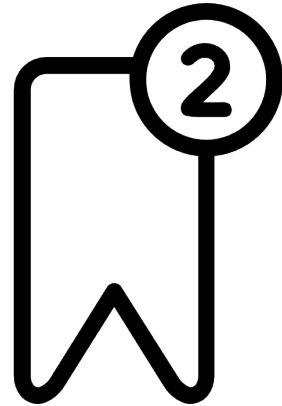
number of static invocations



# RQ2: findings



metrics can discern low-quality from fair ones



poor ability of metrics representing size, complexity, and readability



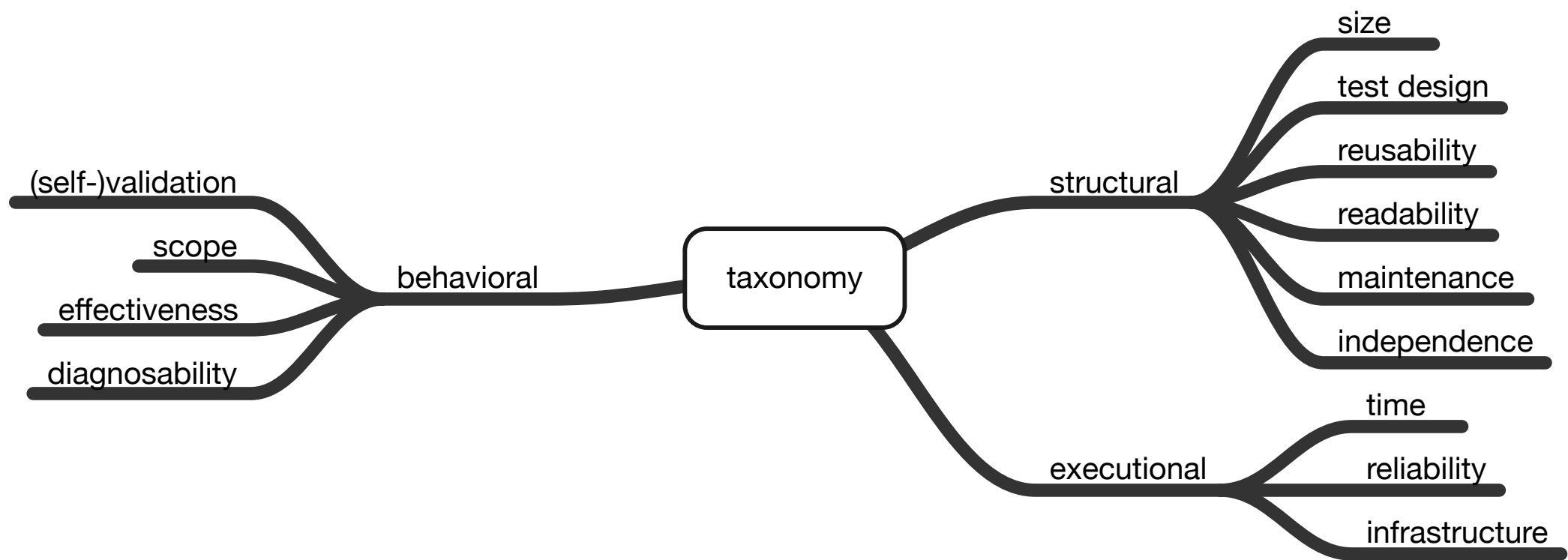
metrics fails at providing a comprehensive model of perceived test quality



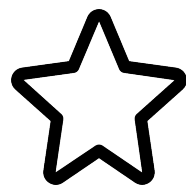
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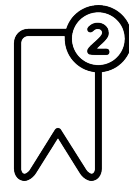
RQ1: results



RQ2: findings



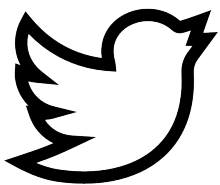
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