# Literature Review

In order to tackle the research questions, different disciplines of software engineering such as Complex datasets, Compiler reporting, Continuous integration, Refactoring tools, Issue tracker, Stack Overflow, Gamification, Usability Engineering are looked into and studied what ideas can be adapted into our scenario along with own novel solution ideas.  
  
After the literature review in the above-mentioned disciplines, there are a few important takeaways in the scope of this thesis. In the area of ’Complex datasets’, current research where Dix et al. talks about more complex grouping and linking of datasets in the context of a user interface of Spreadsheets application. There could be two datasets with fields having a similar meaning and fields that are completely different. So, the key takeaway is about design lessons of extensibility of columns for example, ’venues were geocoded to allow spatial graphs’ could be related as an example dates in bug reports to some standard format for all tools used and shown on a unified interface. Next, Gaur et al. speaks about the linear search problem in indexing as it takes more time for large volumes of data. So, different parameters are introduced to decrease computation time. Example: a database with toys is searched linearly for a given query it takes more time than a modified query let’s say a toy in red colour and type horse, then the search is simplified by looking at two parameters i.e., colour and type. This sparks the idea of grouping bugs as per module, bug type, which could ease user in finding a certain bug on an interface.  
  
In the area of ’Compiler reporting’, Horning et al. mentions the importance of error logging with statistics as to what the compilers are expected to tell the user. It also mentions the importance of stating what kind of bugs are not found along with bugs found but in reality this questions the scalability. So, the key takeaway is that it is ideal to show the number of certain bugs founds in an analysis. Next in the area of ’Refactoring tools’, Dustinca talks about how the Refactoring tools are to be built and in user context, it has to overcome the barrier of discoverability which means the difficulty of use. To assist the developer on this issue, they introduced a smart tag in the context of the user editor and notifies which parts of the code can be refactored. This emphasises the importance of ’on-board’ phase, which plays a key role in the gamification discipline. Hayashi et al. illustrate the importance of task level commits in order to maintain an edit history of refactoring. This gives an idea of which a user does a bug-fix level commit to addressing the traceability scenario. Mealy et al. mentions about the importance of usability for software refactoring tools and this could perhaps give some basic guidelines similar to knowing Usability Engineering discipline.  
  
In the area of ’Issue tracker’, Baysal et al. mentions reducing the information overload for a developer in using the issue tracker. It is found out in their research paper that there is a too much of information they receive which in fact confuses the developer in how to react, example: the developer receive a high number of bugs reported via email and this leads to a situation where the developer ignore the email. They found some interesting solution ideas such as having a private dashboard for each developer as it becomes easy to react to issues corresponding to them. Expressiveness is one other mentioned in their paper which says an example, severity or priority are vague terms to describe a bug. Perhaps it is ideal to describe the priory as per team decision instead of personal choice. This signifies in categorising the results as per categories in our unified interface. Next in ’Stack Overflow’, in a research paper by Wang et al. it is found there are 10934198 questions on a ’User Interface’ topic for example. It is quite challenging to go through such a high volume database, but the Stack Overflow team has a friendly user interface, as shown in the following . It uses some clean filter techniques like tags for each topic, priority and trending, etc. A research by Treude et al. found out that most of the questions (72.30%) in Stack Overflow have between 2 and 4 tags. This could perhaps ease in filtering/indexing issues.

An user interface of Stack Overflow Website.

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