Debrief for experiment on Lombok builders

Thank you for participating in our experiment. This document is intended to explain the purpose of the experiment and provide background once you have completed it. There is no obligation for you to read it; it is to satisfy any curiosity you might have.

We are testing a new extension to the Java compiler that detects a failure to set a required Lombok property at compile-time. Normally, failing to set such a property is a run-time error; we hypothesize that learning about these problems at compile-time will speed up development and reduce production failures. We have anecdotal evidence that these failures are especially common when the builder is in one package but the call-site that needs to be modified is in another. This study is attempting to gather data on whether our extension is useful in simple cases.

The extension is open-source; you can find more information at https://github.com/kelloggm/object-construction-checker/. It is also supported at Amazon by Martin Schäf (schaef@) if you are interested in using it in your work.

Thanks again for your participation!

Martin Schäf (schaef@amazon.com)