Reminders

- □ <u>Mid-term 1</u>: next **Monday, Sept. 25 in class**
- □ Project deliverable 1: due Sunday, Oct 1, 2017 at 11:59 PM (extended)

Cpt S 422: Software Engineering Principles II Code reviews

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Code inspections - as seen by Fagan

- In 1976, Fagan formalized a process for code reviews/ inspections
 - ➤ Line-by-line
 - > Types of inspections:
 - ✓ID: after design, before code
 - ✓ Ic: after code, before unit testing
 - ✓IT: after unit test
 - > 2 sessions of 2h each per day is considered acceptable
- □ Roles of the members participating in the inspections
 - ➤ Moderator: the coach, typically someone from an unrelated project
 - Designer
 - Coder/Implementor
 - > Tester

Code inspections - as seen by Fagan (cont.)

- Outline of the inspection process
 - 1. Overview (whole team): the designer describes the area that is being addressed and the details of his design; documentation of the design is distributed to all participants. Not needed for IC
 - **2. Preparation** (individual): members try to understand the design on their own (intent, logic, etc.). Checklists are recommended.
 - 3. Inspection (whole team): A "reader" chosen by the moderator (usually the coder) describes how he will implement the design. If any errors are found they are noted and classified. If a solution is obvious then it is noted as well. The moderator produces a report summarizing the findings within a day of the inspection.
 - **4. Rework:** resolving the problems noted in the inspection phase.
 - **5. Follow-up:** the moderator has to ensure that all problems have been fixed. If more than 5% of the material has been reworked then the team should do a re-inspection.

Modern Code Reviews (MCR)

- □ Informal (as opposed to the process described by Fagan)
- □ Tool based
- Performed regularly by many companies
 - > Microsoft
 - Google (Mondrian)
 - Facebook (Phabricator)
 - Open-Source Software projects (e.g., Gerrit)

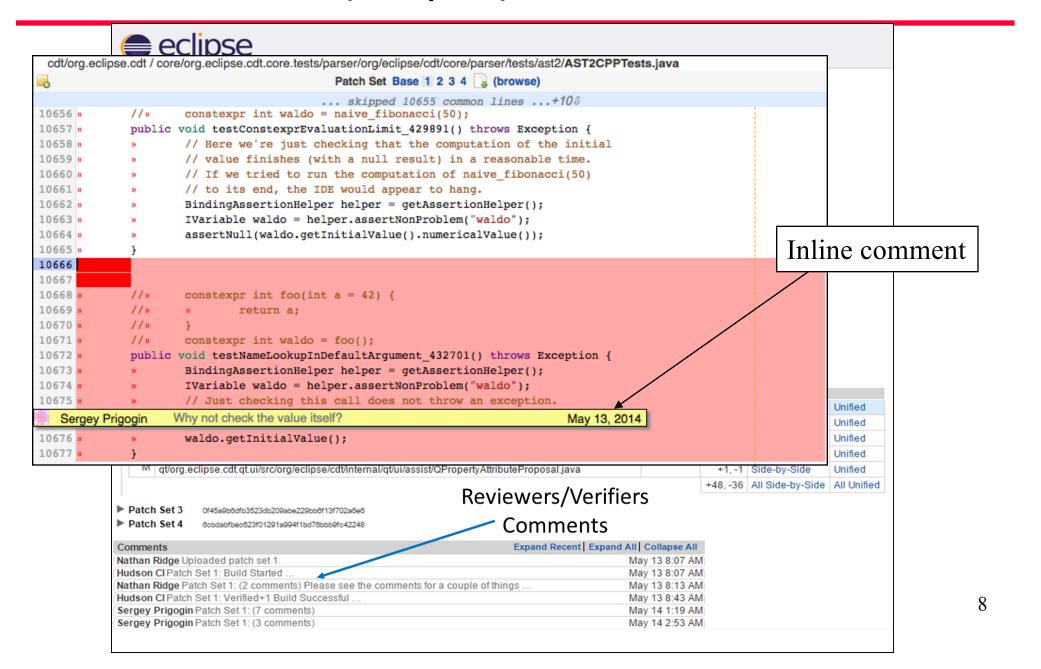
Code review process

- □ Rigby et al. study different policies used by the Apache Server project:
 - Review-then-commit (RTC)
 - Commit-then-review (CTR)
 - Lazy consensus (silence implies consent)

Tools: CodeFlow (Microsoft)



Tools: Gerrit (Eclipse)



Expectations, outcomes, and challenges of MCR

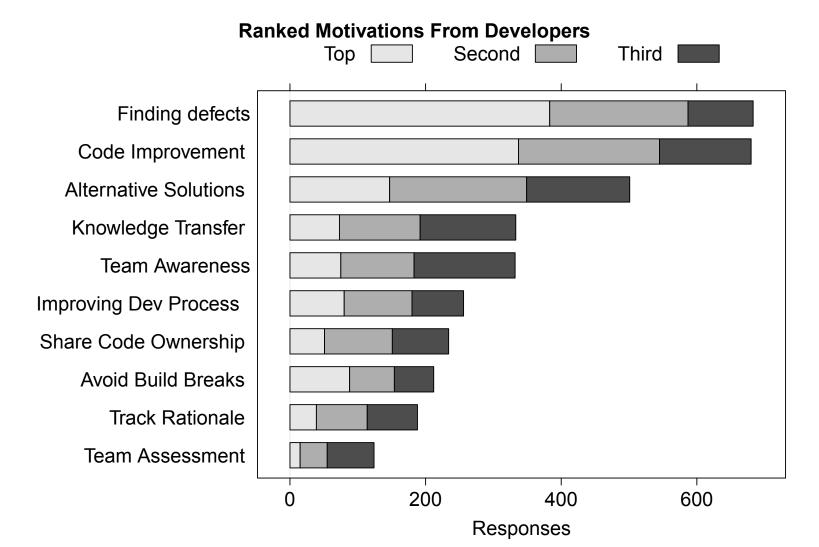
- Study at Microsoft by Bacchelli and Bird
 - What are the expectations for code review nowadays?
 - What are the actual outcomes of code review?
 - What challenges do people face in code review?

Methodology

- Observing and interviewing 17 industrial developers performing code reviews
- Manual inspection and classification of 570 code review comments
- Surveying 165 managers and 873 programmers

Motivation for Code Review

■ Why do programmers do code reviews?

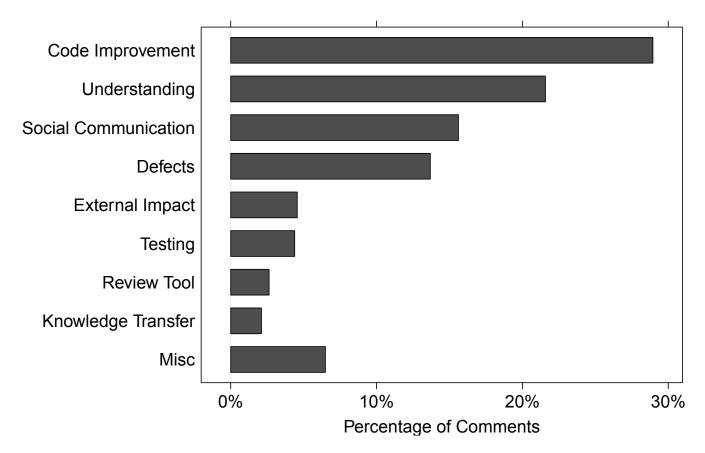


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Outcomes of Code Reviews

□ Sample of 570 code review comments





Summary of the results

- Motivation for code reviews
 - > Finding defects
 - > Code improvement
- Other benefits
 - ➤ Knowledge transfer
 - > Team awareness
 - Understanding

Challenges

Understanding

- Code review submissions must include accurate summary of the changes
- ➤ The changes must correspond to a cohesive change (small, independent, and complete)
- Understanding needs change with the expected outcome of code review: The most difficult tasks from the understanding perspective are finding defects and alternative solutions
- Top-down versus bottom-up approach for understanding the changes depending on whether the reviewer is familiar with the code or not
- ➤ Tool limitation: although code review tools provide diffing capabilities, inline commenting, or syntax highlighting, often times reviewers and authors see the need to talk in person

Code review using pull requests

- Most code review tools require you to setup a server
- An alternative way to perform code reviews is to use pull requests, e.g.:
 - > Create a branch for the feature/bug you are working on
 - > Once you are done, commit your work and push it to your repository
 - Create a pull request from your branch
 - ✓ Describe what the work is about
 - ✓ Select reviewers
 - Address the reviewers comments until the code is accepted
 - > The reviewer/verifier can then merge the code to the master

Tasks for today

- ☐ Sit next to your project teammates
- One of you must commit <u>the buggy version</u> of the Calendar example in a repository and share it with the rest of the team members
- Decide on one task for each team member (you can use tasks that already performed)
- □ Each team member should create a branch and work on the task. Once completed, the task must be submitted for review to the other team members.
- Once all comments of the reviewers are addressed, the branches must be merged to the master. (Each team member must do one merge)