

Software Quality Assurance (WS 10/11)

Problem Set 6
Due Wednesday, February 2nd, 2011

Introduction

Following the functional, object-oriented and static test approaches that have been presented in the last tutorials, the quantitative approaches will now be demonstrated as an essential part of static program analysis.

The goal of using measurement approaches is the application of fixed numerical values for evaluating and the determining of quality attributes. The measurement theories seem to be rather boring at first, but they form the basis for the subsequent measurement definition and are the causes of many practical problems.

Static Test: Software Measurements

- Usage and application
- Scale and evaluation
- Important single measurements

Problem 1: Measurement Theory

Which diagram is applied for application of measures? Please give a brief explanation of intersections between the measure sets.

Problem 2: Measurement Theory

Please depict the measurement axioms graphically with bar charts and give appropriate explanations. Which scales are yielded?

Problem 3: Measurement Theory

On which scale types are the following measurement value groups valid and why? Please verify your arrangement of the scale types by utilizing the measurement axioms, which have been depicted in the lecture. Please give the corresponding mapping and range for each group.

- a) House number
- b) Sea level of different sites
- c) The amount of ducks on a lake
- d) Weights of Martians on their planet tour

Problem 4: Single Measurement

How do you understand McCabe's cyclomatic number? How can this number be applied in object-oriented software?

Problem 5: Single Measurement

Given is a measure P , which equals the number of the atomic predicates in a software module. Atomic predicates in the sense of the measure P are only present in the decisions of a module. They have a Boolean value range and are not combined (Example: $(x > 5)$ is an atomic predicate; $((x = 6) \text{ OR } (y < z))$ is not an atomic predicate, but is combined of two atomic predicates together)

- What is the measure type of P ?
- Can the values of P be used as ordinal scale?
- Please give the modification of this module for the empirical relation $\cdot \geq$ (so that the measurement value increases)
- Can the values of P be used as rational scale in terms of the textual chaining of two modules?

Problem 6: Single Measurement

Given is the measure P_1 which equals the quotient of the measure P (Problem 5) and Z (number of the decisions) for a software module: $P_1 = P / Z$.

- What is the measure type of P_1 ?
- Are the values of P_1 applicable as ordinal scale?
- Do the values of P_1 fulfill the monotony relation in terms of the textual chaining of two modules?
- Are the values of P_1 applicable as a rational scale in terms of the textual chaining of two modules?
- What follows from sub-problem c) for the calculation of the measure P_1 across several modules on the basis of the values of single modules?

Problem 7: Single Measurement

A data-flow oriented measure M_d should describe the number of different data accesses to different variables. Counted are *defs*, *c-uses* and *p-use*; however, each variable will be counted only once.

Example: If *defs*(x) occurs more than once, only one time will be counted. If *c-uses*(x) occurs once or more times, the measure value will just be increased by 1. The same rule holds for *p-uses*(x). Accesses to a different variable (e.g., y) will also be counted again.

```
y := x + 1;  
y := y2;  
z := y - 1;
```

For the code section mentioned above, the value 4 is thus yielded.

- How should the empirical relation be evaluated concerning the given modifications 1-3, in order to apply the measure M_d as an ordinal scale?
 - Add data access to new variable?
 - Add already available data access to available variable?
 - Add new data access type to available variable?
- Can the measure M_d be used as a rational scale concerning the textual chaining of two modules? If so, why?
- Please give the monotony condition as a criterion for the rational scale. Explain the significance of the monotony condition in your own words.
- Please prove that measures M , that are quotients ($M = a/b$), generally do not fulfill the monotony condition in general (see the example of the textual chaining).