Software Hut Lab Pack

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This lab pack for the Software Hut is to accompany the paper “The Sheffield Software Engineering Observatory Archive: Six Years of Empirical Data Collected from 73 Complete Projects” [1] although it maybe cited by other papers. The lab pack contains various resources that will assist in understanding our research environment and in replicating it. The resources maybe updated from time to time.

We have published a range of results that we have obtained from the Software Hut data [1]. Several papers that describe in detail various elements of the course. They are cited against the descriptions of the documents in the pack below.

We have provided the following materials for experimenters aiming to replicate our results in their own environment. The lab pack is currently based on materials that we used in 2007-8. The zip of the files can be downloaded from: http://www.shef.ac.uk/dcs/research/publications/memoranda.html

General
1. Managers record sheet. Every week a manager who is external to the development team should interview the team and ensure they are making good progress. The aim is to ensure the team don’t make any really bad decisions, but decisions should not be made for the team.
2. This sheet should be given to the students as it explains how the course will be run and their marks awarded. The schedule will need to be adjusted depending on the times the course is run.
3. A typical meeting schedule, a two hour slot was used when all the teams met their client and manager for a set period of time [2, 3].
4. A hand out to tell the students what is expected of them on the course [1, 4, 5].

Lectures
Several presentations are provided which formed the basis of the main lectures to introduce important topics. In particular we note that the teams had little or no exposure to XP prior to this course [6, 7].
1. A lecture to orientate the students at the start of the course.
2. A lecture about testing, and test first.
3. A presentation about using our management tool [8].
4. A lecture about how to use X-Machines as a design and testing method [9-12].
5. A lecture about how to package up a project to send it to a client.
6. An introduction to XP - hand outs
7. A lecture to orientate the students at the start of the course (from 2006)
8. Introduction to XP - slides
9. A lecture to orientate the students at the start of the course (from 2007)
10. Introduction to XP (from 2007)
11. A lecture to orientate the students at the start of the course. (2008)
12. A refresher lecture on requirements documents
Surveys
We performed some standard surveys on the students to profile teams.
1. Issued at the end of the course and examined this survey asks the students to reflect on important accomplishments, and serves to highlight how the division of labour occurred within the team.

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References


