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Extracting performance factors against performance degradation through Code Visualization

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Abstract Nowadays, the SW industry in Korea considers the quality of SW in the viewpoint of its performance. It should also identify the various properties of its performance quality in accordance with the SW requirements. This paper proposes an identification method about the performance degradation factors through Code Visualization, and suggests a mechanism to visualize the extract factors. SW developers can improve the quality of SW performance and prevent coding practices to degrade SW performance.

Keywords: Code Visualization, Nipa's SW Visualization, Performance,

1. Introduction

Today's software industry has grown in and brought about the issue about its high quality. However, compared to the growing industry, a shorter period in market shipping has made the code centralized development for faster improvement in the scene of industry. As a result, software of poor quality have been mass-produced because the SW invisibility makes it difficult to manage them properly. Code Visualization becomes necessary, that it, it needs to manage the quality properties through the extract from the Code Visualization [1].

This paper describes an extracting method for factors of performance degradation among quality property requirements through Code Visualization. Therefore, it is organized as follows: Chapter 2 describes Code Visualization as related work, Chapter 3 shows to detect and apply factors harmful to performances, and Chapter 4 refers to Conclusion and future research.

2. Related Work: Code Visualization

Essential are software development and management, process, test automation, and quality certification, etc. for successful software development and management. However, resources and professional personnel are too lack to carry out such work and Code Visualization is recommended as a technique to improve the efficiency for maintenance and quality

management [1-3]. Figure 1 shows one example of code visualization.

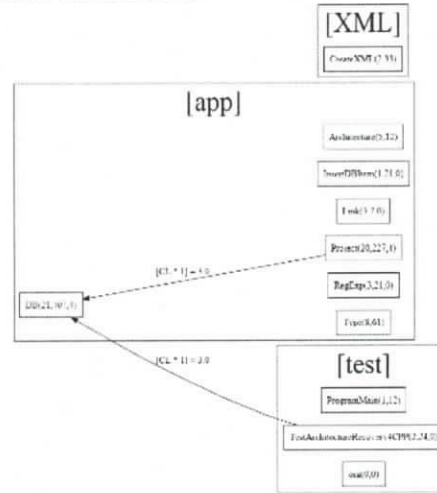


Figure 1. one example of Code Visualization

3. The Extraction Method for Performance Improvement

The degradation factors include environmental problems such as lack of memory, problems about Java virtual machine, etc. according to 2005 Information System Management Guidance [4], but 33% of the degraded SW performance is occupied by SW design and source code occurs. Therefore, a method is required to extract elements of SW performance degradation.

3.1 degradation factor extraction method

Figure 2 represents a method for extraction a degradation factor by Code Visualization.

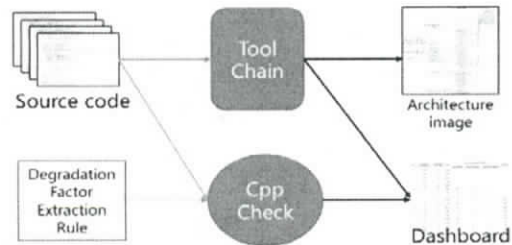


Figure 2. System Configuration

If you enter an existing source code in the Tool Chain, you can analyze the source and extract the quality properties fit in the architecture image Dashboard. Also, if you input the source code and the extraction rule about performance degradation factors in Cppcheck [5], you can output violations in the Dashboard.

Table 1. degradation factor extraction rule

Loop	<code>[a-z,A-Z, _]([a-z,A-Z, _0-9])* &lt; ; ([0-9])+ ; [a-z,A-Z, _]([a-z,A-Z, _0-9])* \+ \+</code>
Control Statement	<code>[a-z,A-Z, _]([a-z,A-Z, _0-9)* &lt; ; ([0-9])+ ; [a-z,A-Z, _]([a-z,A-Z, _0-9])* \+ \+ \) \{ if \(if \([a-z,A-Z, _0-9, \b, \s, \+, -, \/, *, \%, \%, -, \&gt; ;, \&gt; ;, \&lt; ;, \[, \])]* == ([0-9])+ \)</code>

Table 1 is a regular representation of a performance degradation factor pattern.

3.2 performance degradation factors

Table 2. degradation factor example

Loop	<code>int sum=0; for(i = 0 ; i<1000; i++) { sum += array[i]; }</code>
Control Statement	<code>for (i=0;i<1000;i++) { if(i & 0x01){ do_odd(i); }else{ do_even(i); } } if(a==1){ }else if(a==2){ }else if(a==3){ }else if(a==4){ }.....</code>

Table 2 shows an example of a SW performance degradation factor.

Static Analysis Tools : CPPCheck

Style Violation	Warning Violation	Performance Violation
203	58	1
128	58	1
123	58	0
143	52	0
142	52	0
92	55	0
93	55	0
94	44	0
95	44	0
95	44	121
94	44	83
94	44	43
92	12	36

Figure 3. Result of Dashboard

Figure 3 shows the results of performance degradation factor

If a performance degradation factor extraction rule is applied, it can show the number of violations like Fig. 3, and if the number is clicked, it can indicate the location of the violation (code line).

4. Conclusion

This study showed a simple pattern for reducing SW performance, and it is possible to extract a pattern to degrade its application and performance in the tool chain by a regular representation for a pattern rule. This can lead a programmer to improve a poor practice of a system performance and the existing system. The future study will be about finding and refactoring a lot of performance degradation factors, and improving performances.

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