

Section 1 of 5

A Study in Software Development

We are running an experiment and would like to ask you for a few minutes of your time to help us.

We will be very happy to share more information about the experiment results and how we interpret them, as well as why we are conducting this study, once we have analyzed the results. For now, however, we would like you simply to respond to a few short questions. This should not take more than ten minutes.

Please note:

1. We will never share any individual responses that could possibly identify you.
2. We will not name the company you work at in any publications arising from this study.
3. If you have any questions about this study or would like to receive the results by email, please contact <NAME> at <EMAIL>.

This study is run by <NAME>. Other participating researchers include <NAME> (<ORGANISATION>),

If you agree to take part in this study, please proceed.

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A Study in Software Development

Please respond to the following:

You are managing a 1-year project. You are ahead of schedule in the current iteration. You have to decide between two options on how to spend your upcoming week. Fill in the blank to indicate the least amount of time that would make you prefer Option 2 over Option 1.

Option 1: Implement a feature that is in the project backlog, scheduled for the next iteration. (five person days of effort).

Option 2: Integrate a new library (five person days effort) that adds no new functionality but has a 60% chance of saving you _____ person days of effort over the duration of the project (with a 40% chance that the library will not result in those savings).

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A Study in Software Development

You are managing an N-years project. You are ahead of schedule in the current iteration. You have to decide between two options on how to spend your upcoming week. Fill in the blank to indicate the least amount of time that would make you prefer Option 2 over Option 1.

Option 1: Implement a feature that is in the project backlog, scheduled for the next iteration. (five person days of effort).

Option 2: Integrate a new library (five person days of effort) that adds no new functionality but has a 60% chance of saving you _____ person days of effort over the duration of the project (with a 40% chance that the library will not result in those savings).

(The only difference here is the timeframe.)

For a project time frame of 1 year, what is the smallest number of days that would make you prefer Option 2?

For a project time frame of 2 years, what is the smallest number of days that would make you prefer Option 2?

For a project time frame of 3 years, what is the smallest number of days that would make you prefer Option 2?

For a project time frame of 4 years, what is the smallest number of days that would make you prefer Option 2?

For a project time frame of 5 years, what is the smallest number of days that would make you prefer Option 2?

For a project time frame of 10 years, what is the smallest number of days that would make you prefer Option 2?

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Could you respond to the following please?

What kind of information do you need to make this decision?

Optionally, do you have any other comments?

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A Study in Software Development

Please help us better understand the data by providing the following personal information.

Gender

Male

Female

Other... _____

Year of Birth

1. Educational Background (please select the appropriate option)

Highest completed degree

Bachelor

Masters

Doctorate

Other... _____

Field of degree

Computer Science

Other... _____

How much training in the following areas has there been in your formal education or professional development?

	None or almost none	A little	Some	A fair amount	A lot
Software requirements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software design	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software construction	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software testing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software maintenance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software configuration management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software engineering management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software engineering process	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software engineering models and methods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software engineering professional practice	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software engineering economics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. Professional Background

What is your current role in your company?

In which of these areas do you have professional experience?
Check all areas for which you have been responsible in your career at some point.

- ☐ Requirements
- ☐ Software architecture
- ☐ Software development
- ☐ Software testing and Quality Assurance
- ☐ Software Configuration Management
- ☐ Project management
- ☐ Software maintenance
- ☐ Other...

Is your team more plan-driven or more agile? Please select the appropriate position on the scale.

	1	2	3	4	5	
very plan driven	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	very agile

Total years of work experience with software development

Total years of work experience in current company

Total years of work experience in current role

Thank you very much for your time!

After submitting, you will not be able to change your responses, because we cannot identify you.

We will be very happy to inform you more fully about the experiment results if you like. If you have any questions about this study or would like to receive the results by email, please contact <NAME> at <EMAIL>.