What a Tangled Effort Estimation Web We Weave!

How Can Knowledge Management Disentangle This Web?

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Abstract: A cornerstone of software project management is effort estimation, the process by which effort is forecasted and used as basis to predict costs and allocate resources effectively, so enabling projects to be delivered on time and within budget. Effort estimation is a very complex domain where the relationship between factors is non-deterministic and has an inherently uncertain nature, and where corresponding decisions and predictions require reasoning with uncertainty. This lecture will provide an overview of the field of project management, focusing on Effort Estimation, discuss previous work in this area, and detail a way in which the use of knowledge management techniques can effectively help Information Technology Organisations improve their effort forecasting.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Emilia Mendes is Professor in Software Engineering at the Blekinge Institute of Technology. She obtained her PhD in Computer Science from the University of Southampton (UK) in 1999, and then initiated her full time academic career in the Computer Science Department at the University of Auckland (NZ), where she worked for 12 years. After leaving NZ, she was Associate Professor at Zayed University (UAE) for a year. Her research is inter-disciplinary, encompassing different disciplines - Web & Software measurement & metrics, Empirical Software & Web Engineering and IT/Computer Science & Software/Web Engineering education. To date she has published over 180 refereed publications, which include two books (one edited (2005 - Web Engineering) and one authored (2007 - Cost Estimation Techniques for Web Projects)). She is on the editorial board of six International Journals in the fields of Web and Software Engineering, and has been a PC member of more than 130 different Conferences and workshops. Finally, she worked in the ICT industry for ten years as programmer, business analyst and project manager prior to moving to the UK in the end of 1995 to initiate her PhD studies.