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Selecting a Size Measure

Exercise

TSP Team Member Training  
Software Engineering Institute

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Selecting a Size Exercise

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| **Objective** | Given data on two candidate size measures with corresponding actual effort data   * plot graphs that illustrate the relationship between each of the two candidate size measures and effort * use the graphs to evaluate the degree of correlation between the two candidate size measures and effort * based on the graphed results, select the *best* size measure of the two candidate size measures |

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| **Instructions** | To complete the exercise   1. Using the data of Table 1, plot the data points on the graph template provided in Figure 1. 2. Using the data of Table 2, plot the data points on the graph template provided in Figure 2. 3. Evaluate the scatter plots that you just developed. Compare the two graphs and identify the plot that shows the higher degree of correlation between the size measure and effort. 4. Respond to the following questions: 5. Based on your visual examination, what size measure would you select as the best predictor of effort? Why? 6. What specific criterion should you use to determine if the size measure you selected is sufficiently correlated to effort so that you can use it with confidence to predict effort? 7. What other criteria would you use to select a size measure? 8. Be prepared to discuss your results with the class. |

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| **Exercise duration** | Take 20 minutes to complete the exercise. |

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| **Need help?** | If you need help,   * refer to the slides that describe selection of a size measure * call upon your instructor to answer any questions you have |

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| Table 1. Effort vs. # sections. |  | Table 2. Effort vs. # pages. |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Effort (hours) | # Sections |  | Effort (hours) | # Pages |
| 401.4 | 6 |  | 401.4 | 184 |
| 286.0 | 5 |  | 286.0 | 120 |
| 203.5 | 5 |  | 203.5 | 90 |
| 410 | 7 |  | 410 | 175 |
| 480 | 10 |  | 480 | 230 |
| 295.5 | 8 |  | 295.5 | 130 |

Figure 1. Effort vs. # sections.



Figure 2. Effort vs. # pages.

