Inspections

Reviews

• Process where **software artifacts** are reviewed by developers, managers, and/or customers for comment or approval [IEEE 1990]
  – Detect errors/inconsistencies
  – Clear intention
  – Design/software meets requirements
  – Developed in uniform manner using standards
Review Benefits

• Learn about system and teammates programming techniques
• Reduce “truck-factor”
• More likely to produce high quality, clear work

Inspection Roles

• **Author**: person who developed artifact
• **Inspectors**: inspect artifact. Everyone except the author.
• **Moderator**: member of the quality assurance team
• **Scribe**: takes notes during inspection of issues of interest
• **Reader**: person who interprets artifact for inspectors
Inspection (Fagan-style)

Inspection Preparation

Individual Review

Inspection Meeting

Defect Correction

Substantial Changes?

Yes

No

Correction Verification

Inspection Preparation

- Author prepares artifact and gives to moderator
- Moderator obtains inspection checklists
- Moderator distributes materials to inspectors
Individual Review

• Each inspector looks over artifact before inspection meeting
• Review from check list and own knowledge of the system and requirements
• Record faults found
• Record time invested (no more than 2 hours)
• Reader should prepare to explain their interpretation of the artifact

Inspection Meeting

• Moderator calls meeting to order
• Reader interprets artifact in sections
• Inspectors note problems or ask questions
• Author answers questions
• Scribes record issues
Inspection Guidelines

- Do NOT correct defects, instead give a course of action
- Author answers questions and does NOT justify decisions
- No personal attacks on authors
- Focus on important issues, less on style issues
- Inspection is no longer than 2 hours in one session

References

- Based on Laurie Williams slides and discussion found at: http://agile.csc.ncsu.edu/ShortLectures/Inspections/Inspections.html