

Aspects as Latent Topics

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Abstract

Underlying the work on Aspect-Oriented Programming (AOP) there is a premise that no one ever challenged: the existence of cross-cutting concerns that find their way to programs in a tangled and scattered manner. We've all seen it. But do tangling and scattering of program concerns really exist in real programs? Do they have a strong effect or is this one of those academic non-issues? That was the question we set out to answer in a paper we published at OOPSLA 2008. And the answer was: yes, these effects do exist in real programs, they are noticeable and detectable, and they reveal a few insights on the nature of those concerns. But they raise even more questions for AOP. I will talk about this study and its consequences.

Categories and Subject Descriptors D.0 [General]

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