Evidence-Based Software Engineering and Systematic Reviews (Chapman & Hall/CRC Innovations in Software Engineering and Software Development Series)

By Barbara Ann Kitchenham, David Budgen, Pearl Brereton

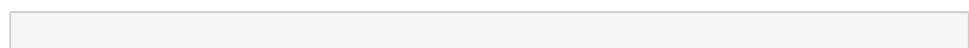**Evidence-Based Software Engineering and Systematic Reviews (Chapman & Hall/CRC Innovations in Software Engineering and Software Development Series)** By Barbara Ann Kitchenham, David Budgen, Pearl Brereton

In the decade since the idea of adapting the evidence-based paradigm for software engineering was first proposed, it has become a major tool of empirical software engineering. **Evidence-Based Software Engineering and Systematic Reviews** provides a clear introduction to the use of an evidence-based model for software engineering research and practice.

The book explains the roles of primary studies (experiments, surveys, case studies) as elements of an over-arching evidence model, rather than as disjointed elements in the empirical spectrum. Supplying readers with a clear understanding of empirical software engineering best practices, it provides up-to-date guidance on how to conduct secondary studies in software engineering?replacing the existing 2004 and 2007 technical reports.

The book is divided into three parts. The first part discusses the nature of evidence and the evidence-based practices centered on a systematic review, both in general and as applying to software engineering. The second part examines the different elements that provide inputs to a systematic review (usually considered as forming a *secondary* study), especially the main forms of primary empirical study currently used in software engineering.

The final part provides practical guidance on how to conduct systematic reviews (the *guidelines*), drawing together accumulated experiences to guide researchers and students in planning and conducting their own studies. The book includes an extensive *glossary* and an appendix that provides a *catalogue* of reviews that may be useful for practice and teaching.

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