#### Automated Bug Report Field Reassignment and Refinement Prediction

#### Xin Xia

Software Practices Lab University of British Columbia



xxia02@cs.ubc.ca

## A Bug Report

#### Bug 227547 - Unit test org.netbeans.modules.cnd.classview.QuoteTestCase.testQuote failed

Status: RESOLVED FIXED	Issue Type: DEFECT	Reported: 2013-03-16 07:31 UTC by Alexander Simon
Product: cnd	Priority: P2 (vote)	Modified: 2013-04-02 09:31 UTC (History)
Component: Other	Target Milestone: 7.4	CC List: 3 users (show)
Version: 7.4	Assigned To: Alexander Sim	non
Hardware: All All		

Alexander Simon 2013-03-16 07:31:46 UTC

Description

Test filed since change set:

http://hg.netbeans.org/main-golden/rev/e7e9a8f3cea7 Commit for bug #227050

# Fields in A Bug Report

- Product
- Component
- Priority
- Severity
- Assignee
- Status (reopen or not)
- Platform
- Version

```
•
```

## Fields Get Reassigned

vv159170	2013-03-18 09:17:10 UTC	Priority	P2	P1
vv159170	2013-03-18 09:19:38 UTC	Priority	P1	P2
jtulach	2013-03-18 13:57:23 UTC	Assignee	jtulach	vv159170
mmirilovic	2013-03-20 08:00:55 UTC	СС		mmirilovic
		Whiteboard	73patch-candidate	73patch2-candidate
vv159170	2013-03-20 14:23:03 UTC	Component	Options&Settings	Code
		Assignee	vv159170	issues
		Product	platform	cnd
		QA Contact	issues	issues

## **Previous Findings**

- Approximately 80% of bug reports have their fields reassigned
- Bug report field reassignments could cause a delay in the bug fix

Xin Xia, David Lo, Ming Wen, Emad Shihab, Bo Zhou: An empirical study of bug report field reassignment. CSMR-WCRE 2014: 174-183

When a bug report is submitted, can we automatically **predict which bug report fields will be reassigned or refined**?



## **Comments from Developers**

- Considering a lot of "raw" users would submit bug reports in our community, there would be many errors (wrongly assigned fields in the bug report), the tool would be possible to evaluate a "raw" user submitted report and predict what fields will be changed.
- A tool which assists whether a fields would get reassigned and refined still relief the workload for a developer

## **Research Challenge**

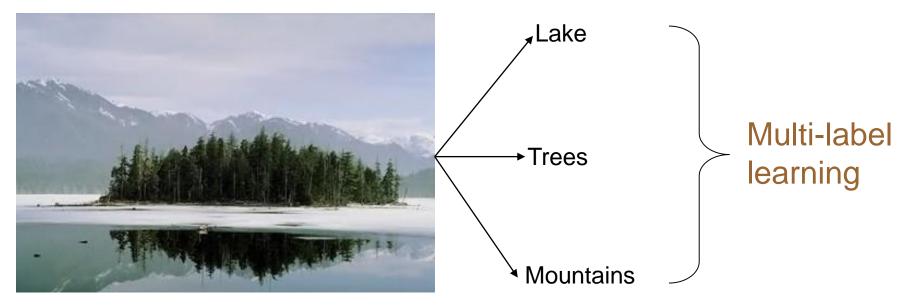
- A bug report could have more than one fields get reassigned or refined simultaneously
- Traditional supervised learning techniques only categorize an instance into one label



### **Multi-label Learning**

### **Multi-Label Objects**

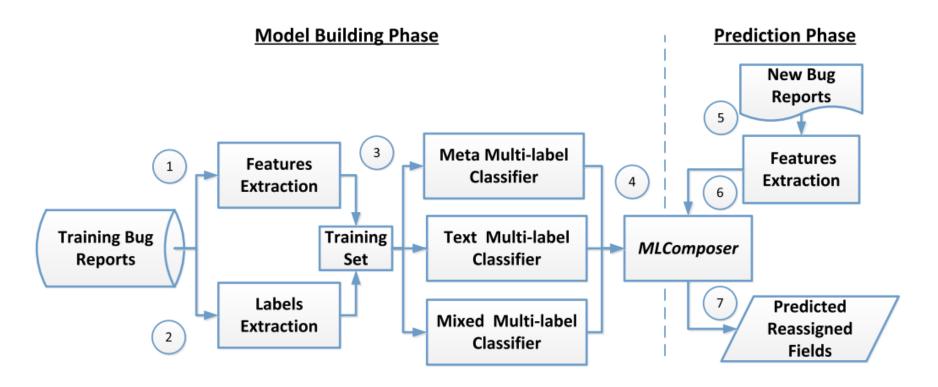
#### e.g. natural scene image



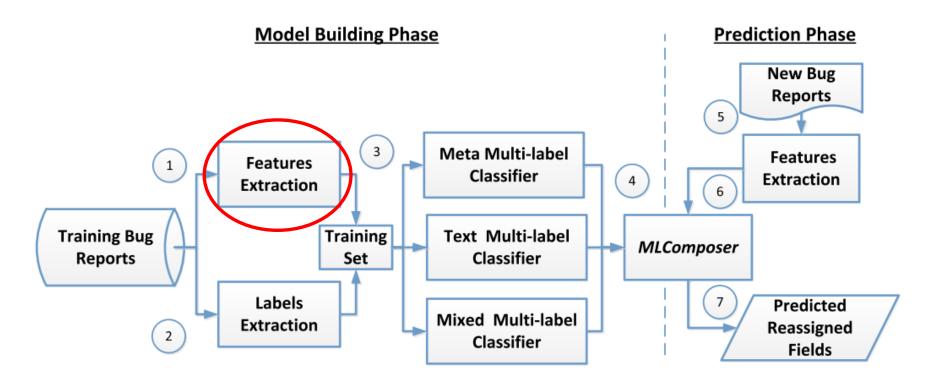
Ubiquitous

Documents, Web pages, Molecules.....

## **Overall Framwork**



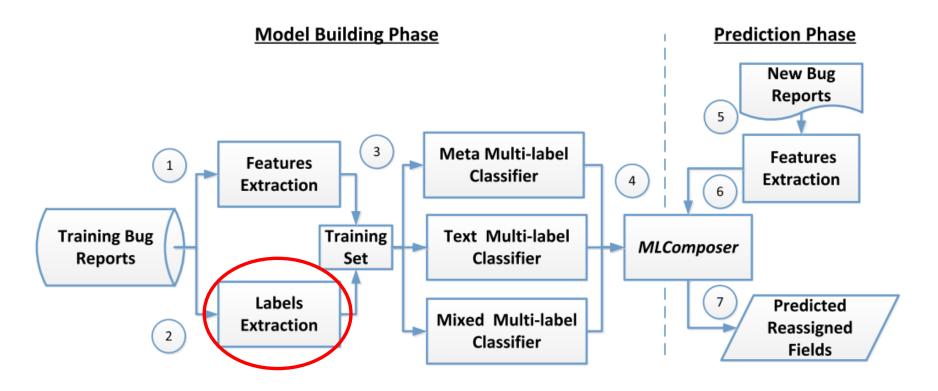
## **Overall Framwork**



### Features

- Meta Features
  - Fields of a bug report except from the text in summary and description, e.g., reporter, assignee, product, and component.
- Textual Features
  - Text in the summary and description
  - Tokenize, remove the stop words, stemming

## **Overall Framwork**

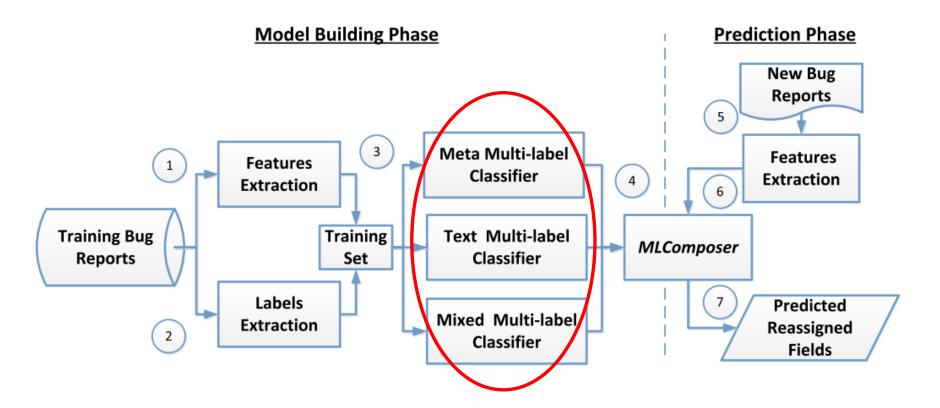


## Label Extraction

- Eight types of reassignment and refinement:
  - component, product, severity, priority, OS, version, fixer, and status
- Parse bug report history, and check whether any of the 8 fields got reassigned and refined

vv159170	2013-03-18 09:17:10 UTC	Priority	P2	P1
vv159170	2013-03-18 09:19:38 UTC	Priority	P1	P2
jtulach	2013-03-18 13:57:23 UTC	Assignee	jtulach	vv159170
mmirilovic	2013-03-20 08:00:55 UTC	СС		mmirilovic
		Whiteboard	73patch-candidate	73patch2-candidate
vv159170	2013-03-20 14:23:03 UTC	Component	Options&Settings	Code
		Assignee	vv159170	issues
		Product	platform	cnd
		QA Contact	issues	issues

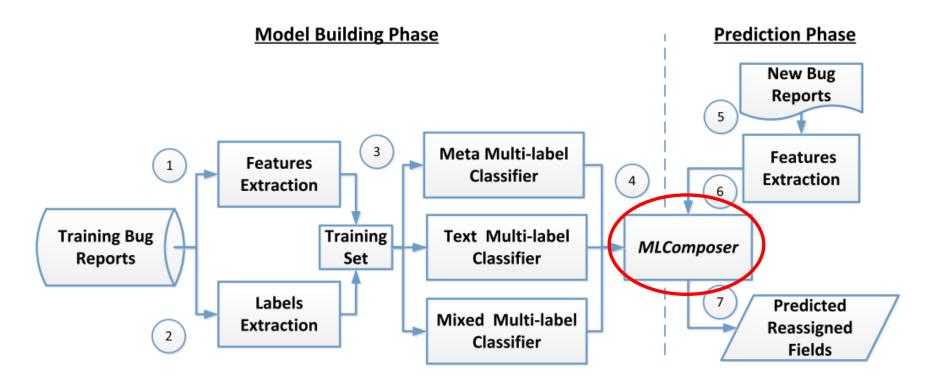
## **Overall Framwork**



## Multi-label Classifier

- We build three multi-label classifiers (ML.KNN) based on three types of features
- Given a bug report br, and a field l, each classifier will output the confidence score that field l will get reassigned or refined :
  - Meta Classifier: *Meta(br,l)*
  - Textual Classifier: *Text*(*br*, *l*)
  - Mixed Classifier: *Mixed(br,l)*

## **Overall Framwork**



## MLComposer

• MLComposer(br, I)= $\partial \times Meta(br, l) + \beta \times Mixed(br, l)$ How to tune good  $\partial, \beta, \gamma$ , and threshold values? reassigned or refined by:

 $\text{Label}_{br}(l) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \text{MLComposer}(br, l) \geq \text{threshold}_l \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ 

### **Evaluation Metrics**

• F1-score for a label *l*:

$$- F1_{l} = \frac{2 \times Precision_{l} \times Recall_{l}}{Precision_{l} + Recall_{l}}$$

• Average F1-score for all labels *L*:

$$-AveF1 = \frac{1}{L}\sum_{l \in L} F1_l$$

## Estimation of Good α,β,γ, and *threshold*, Values

- Divide BR into two subsets BR1(80%) and BR2 (20%)
- Build meta, text, and mixed multi-label classifiers based on BR1
- Increase α, β, γ, and *threshold* from 0 to 1, and find the best combination which achieves the best average F1-scores (*AveF1*) on BR2

#### Datasets

Project	Time	# Reports
OpenOffice	2002-05-17 - 2013-04-07	42,169
Netbeans	2008-01-01 - 2013-03-13	46,345
Eclipse	2008-01-01 - 2011-07-19	50,639
Mozilla	2009-06-23 - 2012-02-23	51,405

## Baselines

• Lamkanfi et al. 's approach:

 Naive Bayes to predict whether a component field would be reassigned and refined

- ML.KNN
  - A KNN implementation for multi-label learning
- HOMER
  - builds a hierarchy of multi-label classifiers by leveraging a balanced clustering algorithm

### Average F1 of Our Approach Compared with the Baselines

Approach	OpenOffice	NetBeans	Eclipse	Mozilla
Our	0.62	0.60	0.56	0.58
Lamkanfi	0.27	0.30	0.23	0.27
ML.KNN	0.61	0.52	0.51	0.52
HOMER	0.23	0.24	0.19	0.24

### Average F1 of Our Approach Compared with Sub-Classifiers

Approach	OpenOffice	NetBeans	Eclipse	Mozilla
Our	0.62	0.60	0.56	0.58
Meta	0.62	0.53	0.51	0.51
Textual	0.20	0.27	0.20	0.24
Mixed	0.61	0.52	0.51	0.52

## Summary

- A tool which leverages multi-label learning algorithms to automatically predict which bug report fields would be reassigned and refined
- Our proposed approach improved the state-ofthe-art by a **substantial margin**

## Future Work

- We only recommend which fields get reassigned or refined, and we plan to recommend what these fields will be reassigned or refined to.
- Leveraging the idea of multi-label learning to solve other software engineering tasks

#### **Multi-label Recommenders for SE**

## **Tag Recommendation**

I have the following code -

asp.net null

₩ Ω int lat = System.Convert.ToInt16(latTextBox1.Text);

This is happening on a changed event.

However my code is breaking on this line saying -

Input string was not in a correct format.

Where latTextBox1.Text = "" which is an empty string. I think this is breaking because it cannot convert an empty string into a null value.

How can I modify my code to account for null values?

#### actionpoll

Actionpoll is a simple PHP script which provides the standard functionality such as unlimited options, IP tracking of users, easy installation, and HTML and WML output. An event can be triggered if a certain number of votes is reached. Surveys can be stored either in a MySQL database or in text files.

Tags	Internet Web Dynamic Content CGI Tools/Libraries
Licenses	GPL
Operating Systems	OS Independent
Implementation	PHP

#### Multi-label Software Behavior Learning

- When a program fails, a crash report would be sent to the software vendor for diagnosis
- A failure could be caused by multiple types of faults simultaneously
- Predict the fault types of a crash

## Developer Recommendation for Bug Resolution

**Frequent "invalid thread access"** 

I'm not sure 100% where the problem lies with this (hard to say if it's SWT, or JFace, or what), but since updgrading to 3.4 M4 I've been having invalid thread accesses like crazy.

#### **Steve Northover**

Fixed > 20080220 We can keep following up with whoever as necessary but in the meantime, people can't use this VM

#### **Steffen Pingel**

These startup warnings are most likely unrelated to the problem you are experiencing

#### Mik Kersten

all Mylyn-related parts of the stack traces have been addressed and should not have been related to the invalid

#### **Felipe Heidrich**

\*\*\* <u>Bug 215791</u> has been marked as a duplicate of this bug. \*\*\*

## Recommending Affected Packages for a Bug Report

#### Wallpaper is loaded twice with different alignment by gnomesession and nautilus (Oneiric)

Bug #804435 reported by 🚨 Lucazade on 2011-07-01

This bug affects 4 people

Affe	ects	Status	Importance	Assigned to	Milestone
$\triangleright$	GTK+	Fix Released	Medium	🛕 gnome-bugs #65924	1
⊳	\delta unity-2d	Invalid 🗭	High	a Gerry Boland	unity-2d 4.10
$\triangleright$	🛞 Ubuntu	Fix Released 🕖	Low	a Chris Coulson	
⊳	📄 nautilus (Ubuntu)	Invalid 🕖	Low	Unassigned	
$\triangleright$	📄 unity (Ubanta)	Invalid 🕖	Low	Unassigned	
⊳	unity-2d (Ubuntu)	Fix Released 🕢	Undecided	Unassigned	

#### Lessons

- The multi-label learning approaches (e.g., ML.KNN) proposed in ML cannot be directly used to solve SE tasks
- Extract the domain-specific features

## Conclusions

- A case study on how to use multi-label learning approaches to predict which bug report fields get reassigned or refined
- Multi-label Recommenders for SE

### Acknowledgment



#### David Lo





**Emad Shihab** 



#### Thank you!

#### **Questions? Comments?**

# **Additional Slides**

## Average Precision and Recall

Project	Algorithms	Ave. Precision	Ave. Recall
	Im-ML.KNN	0.6090	0.6406
OpenOffice	Lamkanfi el al.'s	0.2237	0.8379
OpenOnice	ML.KNN	0.8030	0.5491
	HOMER-NB	0.2711	0.4115
	Im-ML.KNN	0.6113	0.5914
Netbeans	Lamkanfi el al.'s	0.2636	0.6010
Inclueans	ML.KNN	0.7352	0.4697
	HOMER-NB	0.3378	0.2996
	Im-ML.KNN	0.5671	0.5613
Eclipse	Lamkanfi el al.'s	0.1929	0.8154
Lenpse	ML.KNN	0.6923	0.4318
	HOMER-NB	0.2279	0.3788
	Im-ML.KNN	0.5739	0.5899
Mozilla	Lamkanfi el al.'s	0.2194	0.2194
MOZIIIa	ML.KNN	0.7776	0.4775
	HOMER-NB	0.2588	0.4664

# Weights

Projects	Meta Classifier	Text Classifier	Mixed Classifier
OpenOffice	0.35	0.14	0.51
Netbeans	0.24	0.16	0.60
Eclipse	0.28	0.18	0.54
Mozilla	0.30	0.23	0.47