



Título: An Empirical Study on Inter-Component Exception Propagation in Android Platform

Data: **30/11/2017** Horário: **09:30h** Local: **Sala de Seminários do Bloco 952**

Resumo:

Android developers extensively use exception handling to improve robustness of mobile applications. The Android architecture and the object-oriented paradigm impose complexity to the way applications handle exceptions; many different components communicate among themselves and exceptions may be raised in parts that are not responsible for handling the error. A straightforward solution is to propagate the exception to its concerning handler. However, we do not know to which extent developers are using propagation between Android components. Studying and analyzing the state of the practice of exception propagation in Android will allow us to identify patterns and flaws in real-world applications; drawing this panorama can help developers to construct more reliable, modular and maintainable solutions. For this purpose, we conduct an empirical study that takes 66,099 Android projects and answers: (i) if the project uses exception propagation; and (ii) how propagation is performed (how signaling and handling code is implemented). We found that 1,327 applications use exception propagation, following different patterns: 14 for propagating and 2 for handling the exceptions. Our study paves the way for constructing better mechanisms for propagating exceptions in Android.

Banca:

Defesa de Dissertação: Vladymir de Lima Bezerra

Escrito por Secretaria MDCC

Qua, 22 de Novembro de 2017 13:42 - Última atualização Ter, 28 de Novembro de 2017 13:00

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