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Keynote Speech

Why You Should Care About Technical Debt (More Than You Think)

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Abstract

We may not all agree on the precise semantics of the term Technical Debt, but it is undeniably part of the everyday vocabulary of software engineers. We know that it concerns compromises to the internal quality of a system, made either deliberately or inadvertently. We understand that it's not all bad, as it may have served the purpose of expediency at some point. But, a perfect storm is brewing for large complex systems: if we do not manage Technical Debt, it is threatening to "bankrupt" those systems. In this talk we revisit the state of the art to discuss the challenges and examine what theories and practices are offered to help manage Technical Debt. Finally, we discuss some promising future directions in the field, including relations to run-time qualities.

About the speaker



Paris Avgeriou is Professor of Software Engineering at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands where he has led the Software Engineering research group since September 2006. Before joining Groningen, he was a post-doctoral Fellow of the European Research Consortium for Informatics and Mathematics. He is the Editor in Chief of the Journal of Systems and Software, as well as an Associate Editor for IEEE Software. He also sits on the editorial board of Springer Transactions on Pattern Languages of Programming (TPLOP). He has co-organized several international conferences and workshops (mainly at ICSE). His research interests lie in the area of software architecture, with strong emphasis on architecture modeling, knowledge, evolution, patterns and technical debt. He champions the evidence-based paradigm in Software Engineering research and works towards closing the gap between industry and academia.