Title: A hybrid method for increasing the accuracy of software development effort
                estimation

Author/Authors: Vahid Khatibi B., Dayang Norhayati Abang Jawawi, Siti Zaiton Mohd
                Hashim, Elham Khatib

Abstract: Since software development environments, methods and tools are changing
                rapidly, the importance of accurate estimations in software projects is
                increasing significantly. Inaccurate estimations can lead to unpleasant results
                in the software projects so that many projects are failed at the early stages of
                the project. During the recent years, numerous estimation methods have been
                proposed that most of which are based on statistical techniques. Among all
                existing methods, simplicity of analogy based method makes it so common in
                this field. Analogy methods usually present accurate estimations but if the
                level of non normality in the software project datasets is high or type of most
                project features is categorical, these methods are confronted with inaccurate
                estimation problem. In this paper, genetic algorithm has been used under a
                new framework to improve the performance of analogy methods. A large
                dataset has been employed to evaluate the performance of the proposed
                method and the results have been compared with the other estimation methods.
                The results showed that the proposed method outperformed the other methods
                considerably