Avancier Methods (AM)

Adaptive Architecture

A first draft or manifesto v8

There is an address for comments at the end

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Avancier

Large and complex knowledge sites

► Consider Wikipedia

► Or on a much more modest scale, Avancier's web site

► How to develop such a large and complex web site yet keep it internally consistent?
  - Continuous incremental improvement
  - Allow inconsistency but also restore integrity
  - Use version numbering sparingly

Continuous incremental improvement

▶ Keep all materials under continuous review and update

▶ Replace individual pages several thousand times a year.

▶ Continually test the material in the classroom

▶ Fix inconsistency asap (next break or evening) after discovery

Allow inconsistency but also restore integrity

► Impose a hierarchical structure over the Components
► This in detection and minimisation of duplications
► Strive to remember where elements are duplicated in different legs of the structure, and update them at the same time.
► Use continual testing to reveal oversights

Use version numbering sparingly

► If you maintain a system where integrity is not safety critical, agility and continual change are needed, and change time and cost are constrained, then all stakeholders have to accept the system is not perfectible

► To maintain cross-references that include version numbers is impractical and counter-productive, since they increase the size and complexity of the system to be changed.

► The humans who use the system will have to use their innate ability to detect inconsistencies and work around them.

The end

- ► The challenge
- ► Adaptive architecture techniques
- ► 20 Questions about adaptive architecture
- ► **Relaxing version control**

Most of the quotes are taken from "Adapt" by Tim Harford 2011

Send comments to grahamberrisford@gmail.com