



# Software Cartography

## Your roadmap to software!

Our vision is to provide software developers with a stable mental model of software. It should be possible to refer to software parts as *up there*, *down here* or *over there*. In order to achieve this we provide a map-like visualization. The map is ordered by symbols and concepts. The map is embedded in your IDE, so you can see and use it anytime just like the navi in your car.

The consistent layout of codemaps helps to build up a stable mental model of the system under study. Codemaps use the same visual language as cartographic visualizations found in an atlas. Different phenomena, ranging from population density to industry sectors, weather forecast, birth rate, or even flow of trade, all displayed and expressed using the same layout.

Software Cartography helps you...

- to navigate within a software system,
- to relate different metrics to each other.
- to stay in touch with other developers of your team,
- to understand a system's domain upon first contact.
- to explore a system during reverse engineering.

On a codemap, you can display...

- test coverage, bug prediction,
- code ownership and open files of other developers,
- search results, declarations and references,
- control and data flow, stack traces,
- et cetera...

An early-access prototype of the Codemap tool is available as Eclipse plug-in.

<http://scg.unibe.ch/codemap>



We need your help to evaluate Software Cartography! We are looking for programmers with Java and Eclipse experience. You will solve some small tasks, either with (or, if you are in the control group, without) the help of the Codemap tool.

Experiments will take place at the University of Bern, starting from December 7, 2009.

The evaluation will take you about 2 hours, including an introduction to the Codemap tool. Snack and drinks are provided. (NB: if you are a group of participants we are more than glad to stop by at your place!)

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**Got interested?** Talk to our survey monkey at  
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SZMDTD3>