

# Let's talk about Ethics and Software Testing

My slides are available for you at https://bit.ly/hustef-ethics



Tobias Geyer (he/him) - @the-qa-guy.bsky.social

# **Trans rights are human rights**

# Their body, their choice

# We can only progress as a society if we prioritize the most vulnerable

All statements and opinions presented during this talk are the personal opinions of the presenter and don't necessarily reflect those of his employer or other organizations.

Content warning: The talk contains examples of emotional manipulation, injury and death



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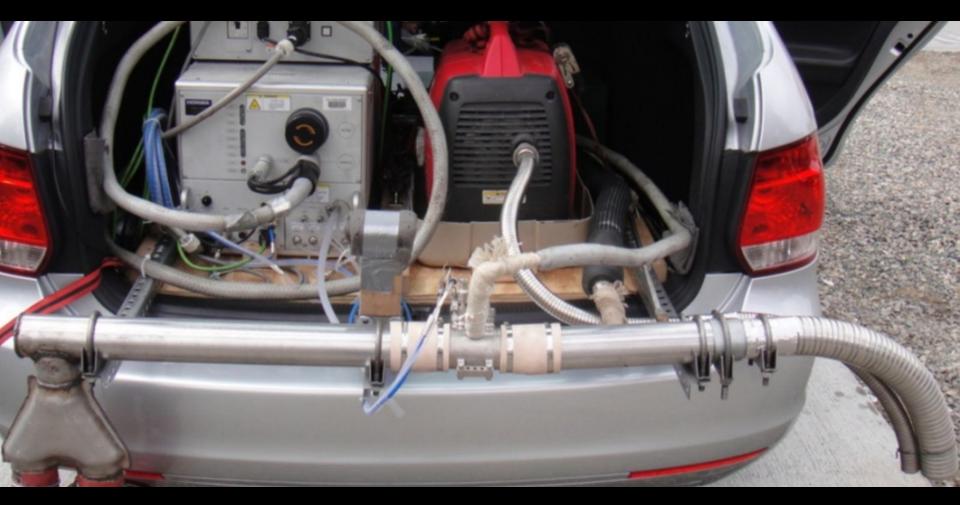
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related

## Will Roper @WILLROP3R · 18. Okt. Antwort an @WILLROP3R

IT'S OFFICIAL! Friday, the @usairforce updated code on a U-2 in flight thanks to #kubernetes. A big first for the U.S. military--edge AI, here we come!



Air Combat Command und 2 weitere Personen

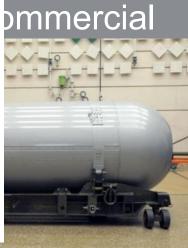
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## MOST OF THE FUNCTIONS ARE REALIZED BY SOFTWARE ONLY !





**Tobias Geyer** @the\_qa\_guy - 4 Nov 2015 "in case of car accidents, the cloud decides if a broken knee is better than a broken arm" wait, what? #eclipsecon

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Alex Schladebeck @alex\_schl · 4 Nov 2015 @the\_qa\_guy don't wanna be the tester for that feature ;-)



Tobias Geyer @the\_qa\_guy - 4 Nov 2015 @alex\_schl don't wanna be a developer for that feature! #ethics #eclipsecon

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Alex Schladebeck @alex\_schl + 4 Nov 2015 @the\_qa\_guy also true! Some interesting (also scary) things coming in the future for this area!

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- Functionality
- Reliability
- Usability
- Efficiency
- Maintainability
- Portability

 IEEE Code of Ethics ACM Code of Ethics • ISTQB Code of Ethics • James Bach **"Thoughts Toward** The Ethics of Testing"





We, the members of the IEEE, in recognition of the importance of our technologies in affecting the quality of life throughout the world, and in accepting a personal obligation to our profession, its members and the communities we serve, do hereby commit ourselves to the highest ethical and professional conduct and agree:

- 1. to accept responsibility in making decisions consistent with the safety, health, and welfare of the public, and to disclose promptly factors that might endanger the public or the environment;
- 2. to avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest whenever possible, and to disclose them to affected parties when they do exist;
- 3. to be honest and realistic in stating claims or estimates based on available data;
- 4. to reject bribery in all its forms;
- 5. to improve the understanding of technology; its appropriate application, and potential consequences;
- 6. to maintain and improve our technical competence and to undertake technological tasks for others only if qualified by training or experience, or after full disclosure of pertinent limitations;
- 7. to seek, accept, and offer honest criticism of technical work, to acknowledge and correct errors, and to credit properly the contributions of others;
- 8. to treat fairly all persons and to not engage in acts of discrimination based on race, religion, gender, disability, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression;
- 9. to avoid injuring others, their property, reputation, or employment by false or malicious action;
- 10. to assist colleagues and co-workers in their professional development and to support them in following this code of ethics.



#### Advancing Computing as a Science & Profession

# 1.1 Contribute to society and to human well-being,

## acknowledging that all people are stakeholders in

computing.

## 1.2 Avoid harm

# 1.3 Be honest and trustworthy.

1.4 Be fair and take action not to discriminate.

**1.5 Respect the work required to produce new ideas,** 

## inventions, creative works, and computing artifacts.

**1.6 Respect privacy.** 

**1.8 Honor confidentiality** 

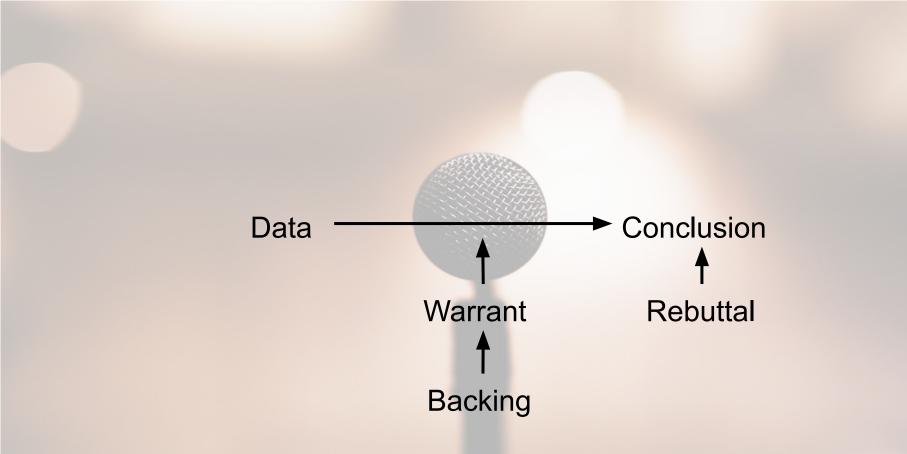


## Recognizing the ACM and IEEE code of ethics for engineers, the ISTQB<sup>®</sup> states the following code of ethics:

- PUBLIC Certified software testers shall act consistently with the public interest.
- CLIENT AND EMPLOYER Certified software testers shall act in a manner that is in the best interests of their client and employer, consistent with the public interest.
- PRODUCT Certified software testers shall ensure that the deliverables they provide (on the products and systems they test) meet the highest professional standards possible.
- JUDGMENT Certified software testers shall maintain integrity and independence in their professional judgment.
- MANAGEMENT Certified software test managers and leaders shall subscribe to and promote an ethical approach to the management of software testing.
- PROFESSION Certified software testers shall advance the integrity and reputation of the profession consistent with the public interest.
- COLLEAGUES Certified software testers shall be fair to and supportive of their colleagues, and promote cooperation with software developers.
- SELF Certified software testers shall participate in lifelong learning regarding the practice of their profession and shall promote an ethical approach to the practice of the profession.



- Know what a test is. Avoid labeling an activity as a "test" unless it represents a sincere effort to discover a problem in a product.
- Maintain a reasonable impartiality. The purpose of testing is to cast light on the status of the product and its context, in the service of my clients. I may play multiple roles on a project, but my purpose, insofar as I am a tester, is not to design or improve the product.
- Do not claim to assure, ensure, or control quality. I don't control anything about the product: a tester is a witness. In that capacity, I strive to assist the quality creation process.
- [...]



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## 1.1 Contribute to society and human well-being.

This obligation includes promoting fundamental human rights and **protecting each individual's right to autonomy**.

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## 1.1 Contribute to society and human well-being.

[...] human well-being requires a safe natural environment. Therefore, computing professionals should promote environmental sustainability both locally and globally.

## **1.3 Be honest and trustworthy.**

Making deliberately **false or misleading claims**, fabricating or falsifying data, offering or accepting bribes, and other dishonest conduct a**re violations of the Code**.

## 1.2 Avoid harm.

Computing professionals should follow **generally accepted best practices** unless there is a compelling ethical reason to do otherwise

## **1.3 Be honest and trustworthy.**

A computing professional should be transparent and **provide full disclosure of** all pertinent system capabilities, limitations, and potential **problems** to the appropriate parties

## 1.2 Avoid harm.

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Well-intended actions, including those that accomplish assigned duties, may lead to harm.

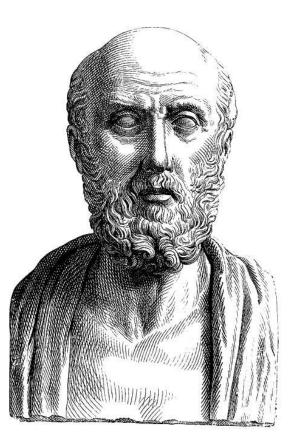
#### NOST OF THE FUNCTIONS ARE REALIZED BY SOFTWARE ONLY !

## 1.1 Contribute to society and human well-being.

An essential aim of computing professionals is to minimize negative consequences of computing systems, including **threats to health and safety**.







# Ethics are relevant for all of us

## Inform yourself about ethics

**Talk about ethics** 

Keep ethics and the toulmin schema in mind



# **Questions?**

Slides: https://bit.ly/hustef-ethics

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