Function Points, Backfiring, and Costar

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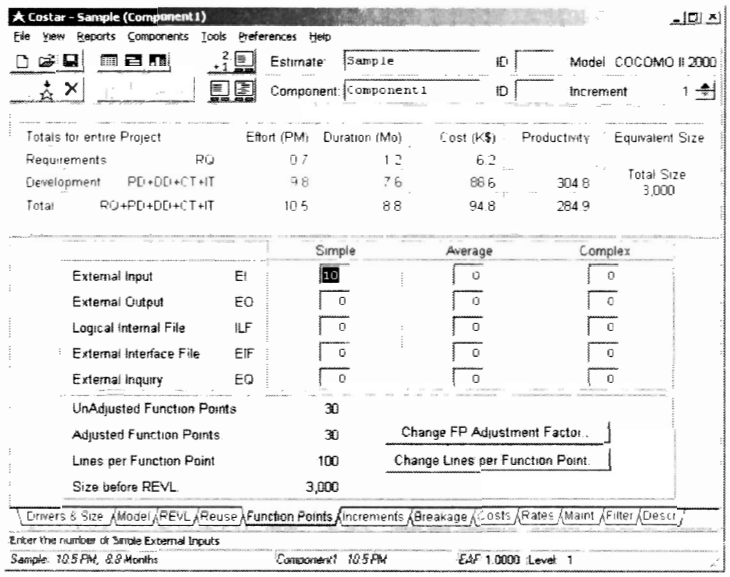
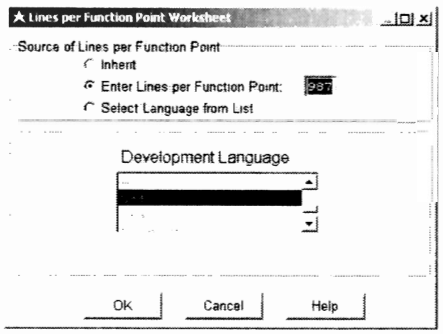
Costar Approaches to Backfiring

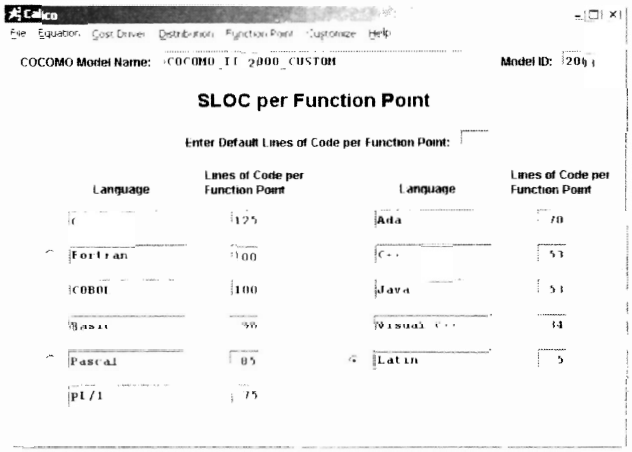
- Costar has let you do backfiring since 1986
- Use predefined language & backfiring ratio
- Define your own language & backfiring ratio
- Supply a backfiring ratio (i.e. ignore language)



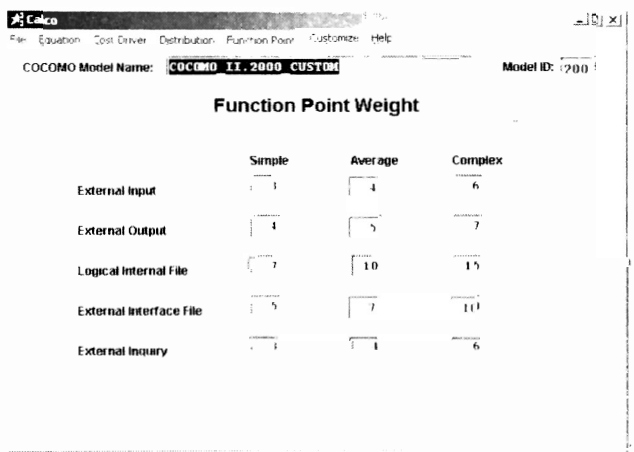
Costar – screen shot



Calico – screen shot



Calico – screen shot



Backfiring Choices

- Use silly old ratios
- Use silly new ratios
- Calculate your own ratios

Costar Backfiring Summary

- Do whatever works
- Calibrate your own
- Count your own – it's easy
- Costar lets you enter new ratio
- Calico lets you build in new languages
- Call us – unlimited technical support

Advice

Do it yourself!

- The published backfire ratios are suspect
  - We don't have access to the original data
  - They didn't use COCOMO II counting rules
  - Very precise, maybe not so accurate
  - Some of the numbers are very old
- It's easy to find a SLOC counter
- It's relatively easy to count FP

Ignore the published ratios -- calculate a ratio for
Your coding practices, your toolset, your domain.