

TOSEM-2021-0317: Minor Revision

Dear Mauro Pezze, Editor in Chief of *ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology*,
Dear Eric Bodden, Associate Editor,

We are happy to submit a minor revision of our paper entitled “**Coverage-Based Debloating for Java Bytecode**.” We thank the reviewers once again for their valuable feedback. We have addressed all their comments, which has improved the quality of our manuscript.

We performed four minor revisions:

- *Reviewer #1 asks for “a discussion how JDBL can scale to multi-module projects and to the projects that do not declare a fixed release version.”*

We added two sentences in the last paragraph of Section 3.3.4 explaining why we implemented a tool that focuses on debloating single-module Maven projects. We made this design decision in JDBL with usability in mind: the user only needs to edit a single *pom.xml* file to debloat with JDBL.

- *Reviewer #3 asks to “clarify this number either in the abstract or at the first appearance in the introduction.”*

We updated the abstract and the fifth paragraph of the introduction to clarify that we successfully debloated 211 library versions from a dataset of 395 versions corresponding to 94 unique libraries.

- *Reviewer #3 points to a discrepancy: “Figure 1 (of cover letter) shows 31 versions of the same library, Table 1 (of the paper) claims there were a maximum of 23 versions of the same library.”*

We checked and confirmed that the data presented in Table 1 in the paper is correct: the library with the maximum number of versions has 23 versions. An updated version of the figure (from the letter), as well as the data and code to reproduce the figure, are available in the replication package of the paper.¹

- *Reviewer #3 asks for “a table which contains the full list of the 211 versions of 94 libraries should be added to the paper or at least to the appendix.”*

We created a summary table in the replication package with the full list of the 211 versions of the successfully debloated libraries.² We added a link to this table as a footnote in Section 5.1.2 of the paper.

In case of requiring any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,

César Soto-Valero

On behalf of Thomas Durieux, Nicolas Harrand, and Benoit Baudry

¹https://github.com/castor-software/jdbl-experiments/blob/master/revision/notebooks/Figures/barplot_versions_debloat_per_lib.pdf

²https://github.com/castor-software/jdbl-experiments/blob/master/list_of_libs_successfully_debloated_with_jdbl.md