

1531 Definition Revision (19T1)

Requirements Engineering

- **Importance of software engineering to software development**

1. deliver value to customer (realising customer's goals).
2. requires a software engineer to apply imagination and have a good understanding of both the problem domain and the software domain to be able to build a conceptual domain model of the product visioned.
3. minimize risks of loss of time, money or even human-life.

- **Software development methodology**

- Waterfall
- Iterative & Incremental Process

- **Difference between Waterfall and Agile:**

1. Waterfall follows a **linear** sequential model: requirements analysis, design, implementation, testing. Agile builds software in iterations where **each iteration implements all the four phases** on a set of feature.
2. Waterfall is rigid and **not open to changes** in requirements. Agile is **open and adaptable** to changing requirements.
3. In Waterfall, customer **only involve at the start and end** of the software life-cycle. Agile characterised by **continuous involvement throughout** the life-cycle (prioritizing work-items and providing feedback on each iteration deliverable.)

- **What are user stories?**

Are one of the primary development artifacts of **Scrum and XP project teams** created the **requirements engineering phase**. (not for waterfall)

In an Agile project, US are discussed in meetings with **the Product Owner** (who writes the US) and **the development team**.

- Attributes
 - Independent
 - Negotiable
 - Valuable
 - Estimable
 - Small
 - Testable

- **Role-feature-reason (RGB template)**

R: Role, G: Goal, B: Benefit.

As a **Role**, I would like to **Goal**, so that I can **Benefit**.

Cannot have US for developer.

- **Acceptance Criteria**

Any member of team can assist product owner to defining and review

- **3C model**

- card: us
- conversation: detailing us at anytime

- confirmation: defining AC and mark them down

Domain Modelling

- **Domain model**

- Also referred to as a **conceptual model** or **domain object model**
- Benefit:
 - Triggers discussions about what is the central to the problem and relationships to the sub-parts.
 - Ensures that the system-to-be reflects a deep, shared understanding of the problem domain as the objects in the domain model will represent domain concepts.
 - The common language foster unambiguous shared understanding of the problem domain and requirements.

- **Functional and non-functional requirements**

- **Use case diagram**

Only functional requirements included.

- System boundary boxes
- Actor
- Associations
 - <<initiate>>: the actor has initiated the use-case.
 - <<participate>>: the actor participates in a use-case but does not actually trigger it.
- Structuring (dot line: feature not directly connect to actor)
 - <<include>>: A->B = A is included by B.
 - <<extend>>: A->B = A extend to B.
 - Abstract and generalised use-case: A B->C

- **UML class diagram** (Unified Modelling Language)

Purpose: describes the structure of the software system to be. Is the main building block of object-oriented modelling. Is used both for general conceptual modelling of the problem domain.

- Structural Diagrams (**static**): class diagram
- Behavioural Diagrams/Interaction diagram (**dynamic**): show interaction between components over time (e.g. activity diagram/sequence diagram/use case diagram)

- **OO Design** (Object Oriented)

- Object: real-world entities, has attributes (properties) and behaviour (methods)
- interface: is the set of the object's methods that can be invoked on the object

An object is instantiated from a class, and the object is the instance of the class. A class is sometimes referred to as an object's type.

- An object has state but a class doesn't.

- **OO principles**

- Abstraction
- Relationship
 - Association
 - Composition ("has a") -◆: the contained item is an integral part of the container.
 - Aggregation ("contains") -◇: the contained item can exist on its own.
 - Inheritance ("is a kind of") -▷

- **difference between requirements (use-case) analysis and domain-modelling**

- requirements (use-case) analysis: black box ("what" does the system deliver)
- domain-modelling: white (transparent) box ("how" does it work)

- **main purpose of domain modelling**

1. support the clarification of requirements.
2. foster an unambiguous shared vision of the problem domain.

- **Meaning of encapsulation in OO design:** "hiding" or "protecting"

- For attributes
Protects the objects state (internal instance variables) from direct modification by restricting direct access to them. Ensure that they can only be observed/modified through object's public interface (methods).
- For methods
isolates changes to the internal implementation without affecting the service requester.

- **Benefits of Encapsulation**

1. ensures that an object's **state is kept consistent**
2. Keeping the data **private**. Data can only access through the methods provided. **Increases usability**.
3. Abstract the internal implementation of the class, reduces the dependencies so that a change to the class does **not cause a rippling effect** on the system.
4. Increases **reusability** of the object's class.

- **CRC card**

Not part of UML specification. Flexible, often need to be modified.

- component
 - **Class** (class name)
 - **Responsibility** (knowledge obtained and action can do)
 - **Collaborator** (relationship to other classes)

Software Testing

- UAT (User Acceptance Tests)
- Black box testing (input->output)
- White box testing (test different scenario)
- Regression testing (verifying developed software)

- **TDD (Test Driven Development)**

An important agile design technique. Is a practice that enforces writing tests before you start implementation of the user-story. Combines two techniques:

- **TFD**: write test before finish production code.

- **refactoring**

modify internal structure **without changing** the external behaviour.
Helps achieve high quality in XP principle.

Goal: deliver a specification that delivers the customer's goal.

Principle:

1. Write tests
2. Write code and make necessary changes until test succeeds
3. Refactor and eliminate redundancy

regression testing: both new and old test succeed.

- **Equivalent testing** is a software testing technique that divides the space of all possible inputs into a "software unit" to ensure the program "behaves the same" for each group. Only need one input for each case.

Equivalence classes are subset of input data.

- Field: Valid Equivalence class / Invalid Equivalence class
- Discription: Discription to the class

Agile

- **RUP** (Rational Unified Process)

- Inception: scope the project, identify major players, required resources, risk...
- Elaboration: understand problem domain, analysis
- Construction: design, build and test
- Transition: release software to production

- **Benefit**

- improve productivity
- improve quality
- improve stakeholder satisfaction
- reduce costs
- risk-adjusted return

- **Agile not suitable for**

- **risk-free/change-free** project.
- very **large** program which need more specified and clear requirement.
- when programmer and product owner is geographically **far away**

- **XP** (Extreme Programming)

higher adaptability (to change requirement) and predictability (defining all requirements at the beginning)

- Principle

- High Quality

- Pair programming: codes and reviews
- Continuous Integration: check code often
- Sustainable pace: moderate, steady pace
- Open Workspace: open environment
- **Refactoring**: improve structure
- **Test-Driven Development**: Unit-testing and User Acceptance Testing

- Simple Design

- Steady Goal: focus on current iteration's story
- Migrate the design from iteration to iteration
- Spike solution, prototypes, CRC cards techniques during design
- Mantra: Keep simple; Don't do what not needed; Don't duplicate code

- Continuous Feedback

- Constant feedback from working pair/testing/integration
- Daily feedback from daily meetings
- Customer get feedback with user acceptance scores and at the end of each iteration
- Programmer receive customer feedback

- **XP Planning**

- Initial Exploration: epic story and user story
 - Conversation: developer and customer identify significant features

- User stories: broken from each feature
 - User Story Points: Estimated by developer
- Release Plan: story point
 - Negotiate release date: customer specify needed US; customer can't choose more than velocity.
 - Project velocity: by time (velocity × US); by scope (total US / numbers of week)
- Iteration Planning
 - developers and customer choose iteration size
 - customer cannot change the story once it has begun (can change others)
 - iteration ends on specific day even US are not done
 - "Done" means all acceptance tests pass
- Task Planning
 - customer and developer arrange iteration planning meeting at the beginning of each iteration
 - customer choose US
 - US breakdown into programming task
 - developer sign up for any task and estimate how long it take
 - user project velocity
 - estimates in ideal programming dates of the task are summed up
 - the velocity in task days overrides the velocity in "Release Plan"
 - team holds meeting half way through iteration
- **Product Backlog between iteration**
 - Customer has flexibility to change priorities
 - Items pulled by developers cannot be prioritized by customer
 - Developers have steady goal

Design Quality

- **Software Rot/Smell** (bad code)
 - Rigidity: too difficult to change, single change causes lots of other dependent modules
 - Fragility: tendency of the software break when a single change is made
 - Immobility: design hard to reuse
 - Viscosity: changes are easier to implement through 'hacks'
 - Opacity: difficult to understand
 - Needless complexity
 - Needless repetition
- **Design quality** is characterised by its degree of:
 - cohesion: all elements collaborate as a functional unit, which has a single, well-focused purpose.
Benefit of high cohesion:
 - highly cohesive classes are much easier to maintain and less frequently changed
 - high cohesion renders the classes more usable than others as they are designed with a well-focused purpose
 - coupling: the degree of interdependence between components or classes.
 - High coupling: A depends on the internal workings of B and is affected by internal changes to component B
 - Low coupling: allows components to be used and modified independently
- **Low coupling and high cohesion** to achieve:
 - Extensible

- Reusable
- Maintainable
- Understandable
- Testable
- **SOLID Principle**
 - **SRP** - Single Responsibility Principle
 - One class should have only one responsibility
 - **OCP** - Open Closed Principle (reduces rigidity)
 - Open for extension: the behaviour of the class can be extended.
 - Closed for modification: extending behaviour of module should not required changing original source.
 - **LSP** - Liskov Substitution Principle
 - **ISP** - Interface Segregation Principle
 - **DIP** - Dependency Inversion Principle

Databases

- **RDBMS (Relational Database Management System)**
 - base on relational data model (i.e. stores data as tuples or records in tables)
 - allows the ser to create relationship between tables
 - Example:
 - Open Source: PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQLite
 - Commercial: Oracle, DB2(IBM), MS SQL Server, Sybase
- **Data Modelling**
 - Logical models: abstract model (ER Model, OOModel)
 - Physical models: record-based models (relation model, classes which deal with the physical ayout of data in storage)

Strategy:

 - conceptual-level modelling: with entity relationship (ER) models
 - implementation-level modelling: transfrom ER design to relational model
- **Aims of Data Modelling**
 - describe what data is
 - describe relationships
 - describe constraints on data

∴ Data Modelling is a design process: converts requirements into a data model
- **ER (entity-relationship) data modelling**
 - **entity** (or entity instance):

a thing or object of interest in the real-world and is distringuishable from other objects.

like an object instance in OO models

 - strong entity
 - weak entity
 - **attribute**:

a data item or property describing the entity.

 - simple
 - composite
 - single-valued

- multi-valued
- **An entity-set** (or entity-type) can be viewed as either:
 - a set of entities with the same set of attributes
 - an abstract description of a class of entities
like a class in OO models
- **relationship** (or relationship instance)
 - total
 - partial
- **relationship type**:
consists of a collection of relationships of the same type
- **degree**
- **cardinality**: one to one / one to many / many to many
- **level of participation constraint**: total / partial
- **ER with subclass**
 - overlapping
 - disjoint

ER Model to Relational Model

- **Relation model**
describes the world as a collection of inter-connected relations or tables. Component:
 - attribute (column)
 - domain (allowed value for an attribute)
 - has name, data type and format
 - NULL belongs to all domains
 - relation schema
 - database schema (collection of relation schema with constraints)
 - tuple (row or record): a set of values
 - relation (table)
 - no ordering
 - each relation generally has a primary key
 - key
 - super-key: whose set of values are distinct
 - candidate key: any super-key such as no subset is also a superkey
 - primary key: a candidate key that can uniquely identify an entity
 - foreign key
- Difference to ER model:**
 - relation model uses relations to model entities and relationships
 - relation model has no composite or multi-valued attributes
 - relation model has no object-oriented notions (subclasses, inheritance)
- **Degree of relation**: number of attributes
- **Constraints**
 - Domain constraint: attributes values can only from domain
 - Referential integrity constraint: cannot be referenced as foreign key unless the primary key is created

- Key constraint: has to be unique but allow NULL
- Primary Key constraint: has to be unique but not allow NULL
- **Relational Schemas**
 - SQL (Structured Query Language) provides the formalism to express relational schemas
 - SQL provides a Data Definition Language (DDL) for creating relations

Software Architecture

- **Definition:**

Is a pattern of structural organization, which defines how the system must be decomposed into its parts and how these parts relate to one another. Basically is defined by:

- Components: a **collection of computational units** (e.g. classes, databases, tools, processes...)
- Connectors: **enable communication** between components (e.g. function call, remote procedure call, event broadcast...) and uses specific **protocol**
- Constraints: defines **how the components can be combined** to form the system
- **Importance** (focus on the non-functional requirements)
 - **Partition complex system** into sub-system ("divide and conquer")
 - Helps to **focus on creative part** and avoid "reinventing the wheel"
 - Support **flexibility and future evolution** by decoupling unrelated parts ("separation of concerns")
 - Pre-determine key non-functional requirements (scalability, reliability, performance, usability etc...)
 - Promotes understanding and communication among stakeholder, end-user, architects and developers.
- **Some Architectural Style**
 - Client/Server (2-tiered, n-tiered. World Wide Web style REST)
 - Server: provides services, handle connections
 - Client: request services
 - Connector: is based on a **request-response** model
 - Example: File Server, Database Server, Email Server, Web Server
 - Benefits: effective, easy to add new server
 - Weakness: single point of failure; network congestion; complex and expensive
 - Peer-to-Peer
 - Each peer can be both server and client (Central server only store hash table)
 - Example: BitTorrent, Skype, Bitcoin
 - Benefit: Efficiency; Scalability; Robustness (not depend on single peer)
 - Weakness: complexity; resource not always available; more demanding of peer
 - Pipe-and-Filter
 - Component: Filter (one by one, independent, do not share state but works concurrently)
 - Connector: Pipe
 - suitable for processing and transforming data stream
 - Example: Unix shell script, compilers
 - Benefits: easy to understand; support reuse (only for agreed data format); flexible; support concurrent processing of data stream
 - Weakness: highly dependent on order of filter; input and output format has to be compatible to each other
 - Central Repository
 - Components:

- Central data repository: central, reliable, permanent, representing state of the system
 - Data accessors: independent, do not interact directly and shared data (e.g. graphical editors, IDEs, database app, document repositories)
 - Connectors: Read/Write mechanism (e.g. procedure calls or direct memory accesses)
 - Benefit: efficient to share large amounts of data; Centralised management (concurrency access, security, back up)
 - Weakness: all components must agree on a repository data model; distribution of data; complex
- Publish-subscribe (Event based)
 - Components:
 - Publisher: don't know the subscribers
 - Subscriber
 - Example: subscribe; stock; wireless sensor networks
 - SOA (Service Oriented Architecture)
 - Components: are created as autonomous, platform-independent, loosely coupled **services**.
 - Applications: B2B (Business to Business) services
- **MVC** (Application Architectural Pattern)
 - Decouple data access, application logic and user interface into three distinct components (and can be different server).
 - **Not a software architectural style**
- **Architecture view**

is a projection of a model showing a subset of its detail.

- Model view
 - decomposes functionality
 - sequence diagrams, UML class diagrams...
- Component and Connector view
 - Describes a runtime structure of the system such as components, connectors (pipes, socket) ...
 - Box-and-line diagram (informal), UML component diagram (formal)
- Allocation view
 - Describes how the software units map to the environment (hardware resources, file-system and people)
 - UML deployment diagram: static view, show the hardware for system (more physical, how the software allocated in system)