



Streaming Website Requirements Specification

Version 1.1

Apr 6, 2023

Group members:

Klevi Xhani

Ankel Bega

Xhoen Alla

Uendi Tuda

Fjola Gjeloshi

Eneid Sina

Kevin Merko

Table of Contents

[STREAMING WEBSITE] REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICATION	1
VERSION 1.0	1
APRIL 19, 2021	1
1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
1.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW	3
1.2 PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THIS SPECIFICATION	3
2. PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION	3
2.1 PRODUCT CONTEXT	3
2.2 USER CHARACTERISTICS	3
2.3 ASSUMPTIONS	3
2.4 CONSTRAINTS	3
2.5 DEPENDENCIES	4
3. REQUIREMENTS	4
3.1 FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS	5
3.2 NON-FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS	5
3.2.1 <i>Product Requirements</i>	5
3.2.1.1 User Interface Requirements	6
3.2.1.2 Usability	6
3.2.1.3 Efficiency	6
3.2.1.3.1 Performance Requirements	6
3.2.1.3.2 Space Requirements	6
3.2.1.4 Dependability	6
3.2.1.5 Security	7
3.2.2 <i>Organizational Requirements</i>	7
3.2.2.1 Environmental Requirements	7
3.2.2.2 Operational Requirements	7
3.2.2.3 Development Requirements	7
3.2.3 <i>External Requirements</i>	7
3.2.3.1 Regulatory Requirements	7
3.2.3.2 Ethical Requirements	7
3.2.3.3 Legislative Requirements	7
3.2.3.3.1 Accounting Requirements	7
3.2.3.3.2 Security Requirements	7
3.3 DOMAIN REQUIREMENTS	7
4. USER SCENARIOS/USE CASES	7

1. Executive Summary

1.1 Project Overview

This streaming website will be designed to provide an enjoyable and seamless experience for content enthusiasts. The website will offer a vast selection of content, ranging from the latest blockbusters to classic films, organized by genre, popularity, and other criteria to help users easily find what they're looking for.

The website will be visually appealing and user-friendly, and most importantly not lackluster, with an intuitive interface that allows users to easily navigate the site and find the content they want. It will utilize a search bar that allows users to quickly find specific content and a recommendation system that suggests content based on the user's viewing history or preferences.

In addition to providing a large selection of content, the website will also include social features, such as a comment section that may or may not be connected to mainstream social platforms, party watching to enjoy content with friends, and possibly a blogging section for people to share opinions, ideas and much more. This can help foster a sense of community among content fans and provide a space for discussion and sharing of opinions.

The website will be optimized for multiple devices, including desktop computers, tablets, and mobile phones, to ensure that users can easily access the site and watch their favorite content from wherever they are without the annoying visual discomfortability that comes with watching desktop content on a mobile device.

The website may also offer additional features, such as the ability to create and save favorite lists, download content for offline viewing, and access exclusive content not available elsewhere due to regional constraints.

Overall, the content streaming website will be designed to provide an immersive and enjoyable experience for content enthusiasts, making it easy for them to discover and watch their favorite content from anywhere and at any time.

1.2 Purpose and Scope of this Specification

Here will be shown the outline of the design and development of a streaming website, detailing the entire process with a focus on design and user needs.

This specification covers a range of topics related to the project, including:

- A comprehensive overview of the website's features and functionalities
- Technical aspects of the system, including processes and views
- User and system requirements
- Detailed analysis of functional and non-functional requirements

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

- Use cases and scenarios, demonstrating how users will interact with the website
- Dependencies and constraints related to the project

However, this specification does not cover:

- Legal requirements or compliance considerations related to the website
- Financial or auditing aspects of the project
- The aim of this specification is to provide a clear roadmap for the design and development of the streaming website, focusing on the needs of users and ensuring that all aspects of the project are fully documented and considered.

In scope

This document addresses requirements related to phase 2 of Project A:

- modification of Classification Processing to meet legislative mandate ABC.
- modification of Labor Relations Processing to meet legislative mandate ABC.

Out of Scope

The following items in phase 3 of Project A are out of scope:

- modification of Classification Processing to meet legislative mandate XYZ.
- modification of Labor Relations Processing to meet legislative mandate XYZ.

(Phase 3 will be considered in the development of the requirements for Phase 2, but the Phase 3 requirements will be documented separately.)

2. Product/Service Description

The streaming website is designed to provide users with a vast collection of movies and TV shows to watch online. It should offer an excellent user experience, including easy navigation, high-quality playback, and personalized recommendations based on users' viewing habits.

Content: One of the most critical factors for a streaming website is the content available to users. The platform's success hinges on the ability to offer a wide range of movies and TV shows that appeal to different audiences.

User experience: A streaming website's user interface and experience is critical to attracting and retaining customers. It should be easy to navigate, visually appealing, and provide seamless playback without buffering or interruption.

Compatibility: The platform will mainly be optimized for a desktop view model, however smartphone, tablet, and tv compatibility will be implemented.

Security: Security is of utmost importance in a streaming website. Users entrust the platform with their personal and possibly financial information, in case of implementing a subscription option, and therefore, it is essential to ensure that the site's security protocols are robust and secure.

Speed and reliability: Streaming websites must be fast and reliable to provide a seamless viewing experience. The website must be able to handle large amounts of traffic without slowing down or crashing.

Licensing agreements: Obtaining licensing agreements for movies and TV shows is crucial to the success of a streaming website. Without licensing agreements, the platform may not have access to high-quality content, making it less attractive to users.

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

Revenue model: Finally, the revenue model of the website is a crucial factor. The website must generate enough revenue to cover licensing fees, hosting costs, and other expenses associated with running the platform. Common revenue models include subscription-based services, pay-per-view, or advertising-based revenue models.

2.1 Product Context

Content providers: The website relies on partnerships with content providers such as movie studios and TV networks to license and acquire the movies and TV shows available on the platform.

Payment processing: The website interfaces with payment processing systems to enable users to pay for subscriptions or pay-per-view content.

Devices and operating systems: The website must be compatible with various devices and operating systems to provide a seamless viewing experience for users.

Analytics and data tracking: The website may use analytics and data tracking systems to monitor user behavior and preferences, which can help provide personalized recommendations.

A diagram to show the major components of the larger system, interconnections, and external interfaces might look like this:

[Image of a diagram showing the movie streaming website at the center, with arrows pointing to content providers, payment processing systems, devices, and operating systems, and analytics and data tracking systems.]

With connections to content providers, payment processing systems, devices, operating systems, analytics, and data tracking systems, the streaming website serves as the system's hub. To give customers a flawless viewing experience and bring in money for the company, the website connects with these services.

2.2 User Characteristics

Admin:

- Primary administrator - can alter anything on the website
- Secondary administrators - users that can add entries, change or monitor other users

Viewers:

- Visitor - unregistered users visiting the website for viewing movies
- Registered users - users already signed up for our services that may or may not have been notified
- Limited users - registered or not users who are not eligible to experience all the options available on the website, be that due to age restrictions or personal preferences (kid users).

Content Creator:

- Bloggers or reviewers - that want to provide reviews for the content
- Artists - users who choose to upload fan art on the website

2.3 Assumptions

Internet connection: It is assumed that users have a stable internet connection to access the website and stream movies or TV shows.

Device compatibility: It is assumed that the website is compatible with commonly used devices and operating systems, such as smartphones, tablets, smart TVs, and laptops.

User expertise: It is assumed that users have basic computer skills and are comfortable navigating websites to find and stream content.

Licensing agreements: It is assumed that the website can secure licensing agreements for the content it wants to offer, without any legal or contractual limitations.

Availability of subtitles and audio tracks: It is assumed that the website can provide subtitles and audio tracks in different languages for movies and TV shows to cater to a global audience.

Content restrictions: It is assumed that the website can enforce content restrictions based on user age.

2.4 Constraints

Audit functions: The website may require audit functions, such as an audit trail or log files, to monitor user activity and ensure data security. These functions could constrain the design options by requiring specific data storage and retrieval methods.

Access, management, and security: Access, management, and security requirements could constrain the design options by requiring specific user authentication methods, user permissions, and encryption protocols.

Criticality of the application: The criticality of the streaming website could constrain the design options by requiring high availability, failover mechanisms, and disaster recovery procedures to minimize downtime.

System resource constraints: Limits on disk space or other hardware limitations could constrain the design options by requiring optimization of storage and processing resources, potentially limiting the functionality or scalability of the system.

Design or other standards: Design or other standards, such as programming language or framework, could constrain the design options by requiring specific development tools, libraries, or APIs.

2.5 Dependencies

Content availability: The website's content availability may depend on securing licensing agreements with various studios and distributors. The requirements for the website would need to be adjusted accordingly to ensure that the content can be acquired and made available in a timely manner.

Third-party services: The website may depend on third-party services, such as payment gateways, content delivery networks, or social media platforms. The requirements for the website would need to be adjusted to ensure compatibility with these services.

Database integration: The website may need to integrate with an existing database or data source. The requirements for the website would need to be adjusted to ensure that data can be properly imported, exported, and managed.

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

Platform compatibility: The website may depend on specific technologies or platforms, such as a particular web server, operating system, or browser. The requirements for the website would need to be adjusted to ensure compatibility with these platforms.

Availability of APIs: The website may need to access data or functionality through APIs provided by other services. The requirements for the website would need to be adjusted to ensure compatibility with these APIs.

Development timelines: The development of certain features or modules may depend on the completion of other features or modules. The requirements for the website would need to be adjusted to ensure that dependencies are properly identified and addressed.

3. Requirements

- Describe all system requirements in enough detail for designers to design a system satisfying the requirements and testers to verify that the system satisfies requirements.
- Organize these requirements in a way that works best for your project. See [Appendix D, Organizing the Requirements](#) for different ways to organize these requirements.
- Describe every input into the system, every output from the system, and every function performed by the system in response to an input or in support of an output. (Specify what functions are to be performed on what data to produce what results at what location for whom.)
- Each requirement should be numbered (or uniquely identifiable) and prioritized. See the sample requirements in Functional Requirements, and System Interface/Integration, as well as these example priority definitions:

Priority Definitions

The following definitions are intended as a guideline to prioritize requirements.

- Priority 1 – The requirement is a “must have” as outlined by policy/law
 - Priority 2 – The requirement is needed for improved processing, and the fulfillment of the requirement will create immediate benefits
 - Priority 3 – The requirement is a “nice to have” which may include new functionality
- It may be helpful to phrase the requirement in terms of its priority, e.g., "The value of the employee status sent to DIS **must be** either A or I" or "It **would be nice** if the application warned the user that the expiration date was 3 business days away". Another approach would be to group requirements by priority category.
- A good requirement is:
 - Correct
 - Unambiguous (all statements have exactly one interpretation)
 - Complete (where TBDs are absolutely necessary, document why the information is unknown, who is responsible for resolution, and the deadline)
 - Consistent
 - Ranked for importance and/or stability
 - Verifiable (avoid soft descriptions like “works well”, “is user friendly”; use concrete terms and specify measurable quantities)
 - Modifiable (evolve the Requirements Specification only via a formal change process, preserving a complete audit trail of changes)
 - Does not specify any particular design
 - Traceable (cross-reference with source documents and spawned documents).

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

3.1 Functional Requirements

In the example below, the requirement numbering has a scheme - BR_LR_0## (BR for Business Requirement, LR for Labor Relations). For small projects simply BR-## would suffice. Keep in mind that if no prefix is used, the traceability matrix may be difficult to create (e.g., no differentiation between '02' as a business requirement vs. a test case)

The following table is an example format for requirements. Choose whatever format works best for your project.

For Example:

Req#	Requirement	Comments	Priority	Date Rvwd	SME Reviewed / Approved
BR_LR_05	The system should associate a supervisor indicator with each job class.	Business Process = "Maintenance"	3	7/13/04	Bob Dylan, Mick Jagger
BR_LR_08	The system should handle any number of fees (existing and new) associated with unions.	Business Process = "Changing Dues in the System" An example of a new fee is an initiation fee.	2	7/13/04	Bob Dylan, Mick Jagger
BR_LR_10	The system should capture and maintain job class status (i.e., active or inactive)	Business Process = "Maintenance" Some job classes are old and are no longer used. However, they still need to be maintained for legal, contract and historical purposes.	2	7/13/04	Bob Dylan, Mick Jagger
BR_LR_16	The system should assign the Supervisor Code based on the value in the Job Class table and additional criteria as specified by the clients.	April 2005 – New requirement. It is one of three new requirements from BR_LR_03.	2		
BR_LR_18	The system should provide the Labor Relations office with the ability to override the system-derived Bargaining Unit code and the Union Code for to-be-determined employee types, including hourly appointments.	April 2005 – New requirement. It is one of three new requirements from BR_LR_04. 5/11/2005 – Priority changed from 2 to 3.	2 3		

3.2 Non-Functional Requirements

In here try to use the Structure given at slide 13 in Requirements Engineering Lecture Slides, with main categories of:

3.2.1 Product Requirements

- Requirements which specify that the delivered product must behave in a particular way e.g. execution speed, reliability, etc.

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

3.2.1.1 User Interface Requirements

In addition to functions required, describe the characteristics of each interface between the product and its users (e.g., required screen formats/organization, report layouts, menu structures, error and other messages, or function keys).

3.2.1.2 Usability

Include any specific usability requirements, for example,

Learnability

- The user documentation and help should be complete
- The help should be context sensitive and explain how to achieve common tasks
- The system should be easy to learn

(See <http://www.usabilitynet.org/>)

3.2.1.3 Efficiency

3.2.1.3.1 Performance Requirements

Specify static and dynamic numerical requirements placed on the system or on human interaction with the system:

- Static numerical requirements may include the number of terminals to be supported, the number of simultaneous users to be supported, and the amount and type of information to be handled.
- Dynamic numerical requirements may include the number of transactions and tasks and the amount of data to be processed within certain time period for both normal and peak workload conditions.

All of these requirements should be stated in measurable form. For example, "95% of the transactions shall be processed in less than 1 second" rather than "an operator shall not have to wait for the transaction to complete".

3.2.1.3.2 Space Requirements

3.2.1.4 Dependability

Availability

Include specific and measurable requirements for:

- Hours of operation
- Level of availability required
- Coverage for geographic areas
- Impact of downtime on users and business operations
- Impact of scheduled and unscheduled maintenance on uptime and maintenance communications procedures
- reliability (e.g., acceptable mean time between failures (MTBF), or the maximum permitted number of failures per hour).

Reliability

Monitoring

Include any requirements for product or service health monitoring, failure conditions, error detection, logging, and correction.

Maintenance

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

Specify attributes of the system that relate to ease of maintenance. These requirements may relate to modularity, complexity, or interface design. Requirements should not be placed here simply because they are thought to be good design practices.

Integrity

3.2.1.5 Security

Specify the factors that will protect the system from malicious or accidental access, modification, disclosure, destruction, or misuse. For example:

- encryption
- activity logging, historical data sets
- restrictions on intermodule communications
- data integrity checks

Specify the Authorization and Authentication factors. Consider using standard tools such as PubCookie.

3.2.2 Organizational Requirements

Requirements which are a consequence of organisational policies and procedures e.g. process standards used, implementation requirements, etc

3.2.2.1 Environmental Requirements

3.2.2.2 Operational Requirements

3.2.2.3 Development Requirements

3.2.3 External Requirements

- Requirements which arise from factors which are external to the system and its development process e.g. interoperability requirements, legislative requirements, etc.

3.2.3.1 Regulatory Requirements

3.2.3.2 Ethical Requirements

3.2.3.3 Legislative Requirements

Specify the requirements derived from existing standards, policies, regulations, or laws (e.g., report format, data naming, accounting procedures, audit tracing). For example, this could specify the requirement for software to trace processing activity. Such traces are needed for some applications to meet minimum regulatory or financial standards. An audit trace requirement may, for example, state that all changes to a payroll database must be recorded in a trace file with before and after values

3.2.3.3.1 Accounting Requirements

3.2.3.3.2 Security Requirements

3.3 Domain Requirements

Everything related to the domain that might be needed in the project shall be mentioned here. Sometimes the domain Requirements might be thought of as part of either functional or non-functional requirements.

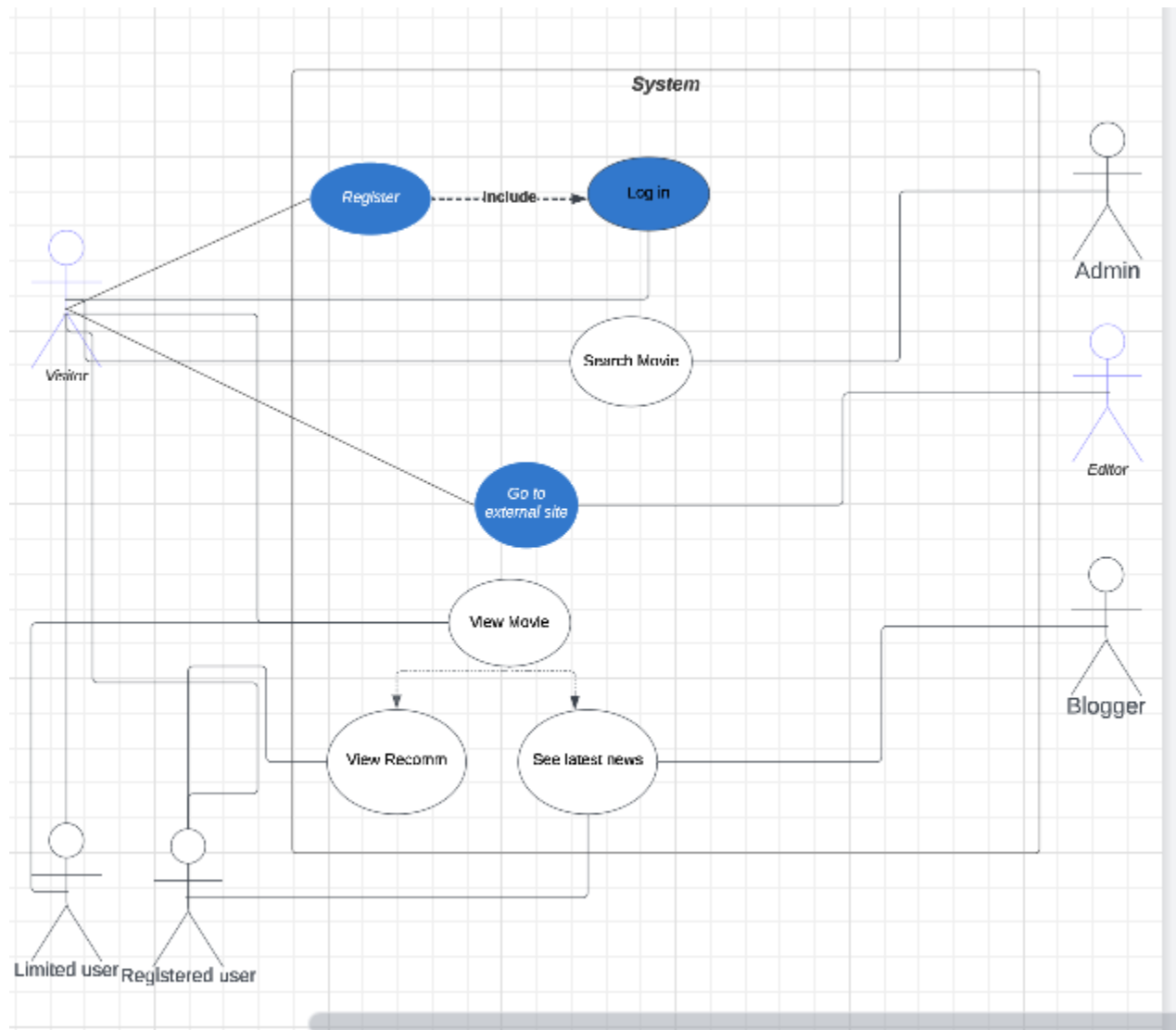
A.1.1.1.

Please provide all necessary non-functional requirements, similar to the requirements explained in the lesson slides or in the textbook.

4. User Scenarios/Use Cases

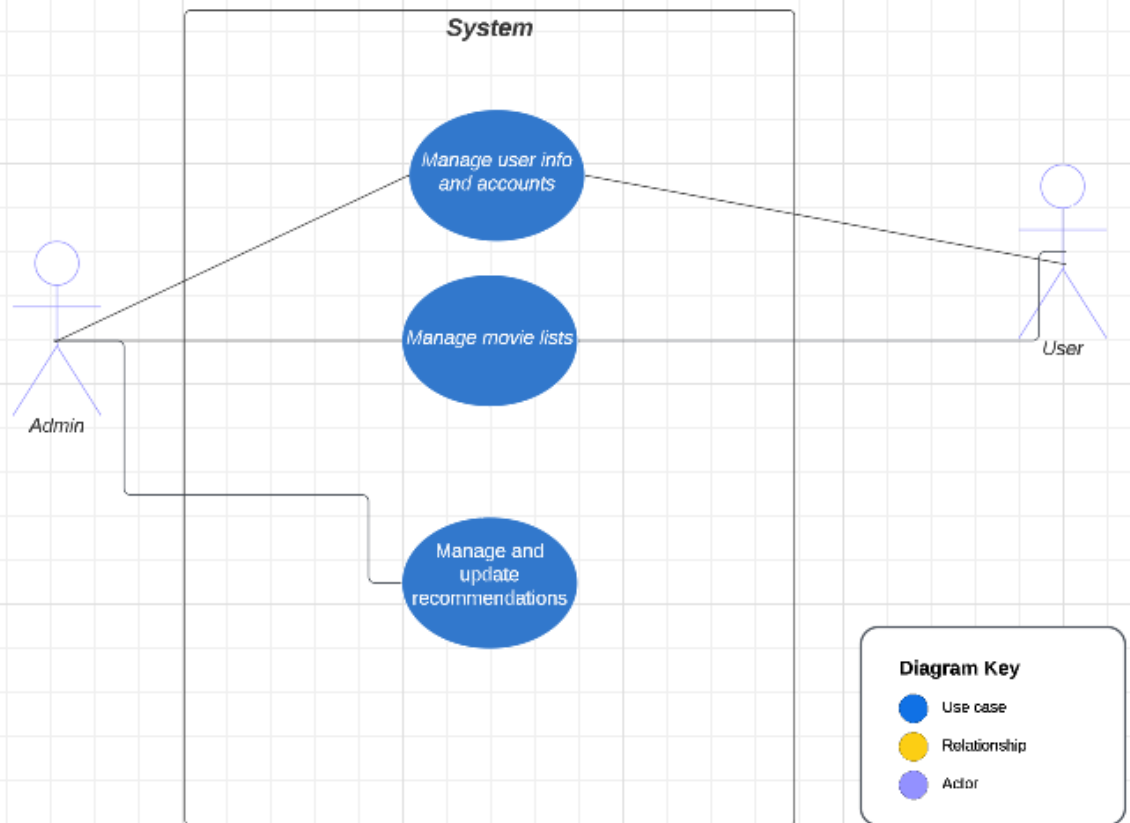
4.1 Use Cases

4.1.1



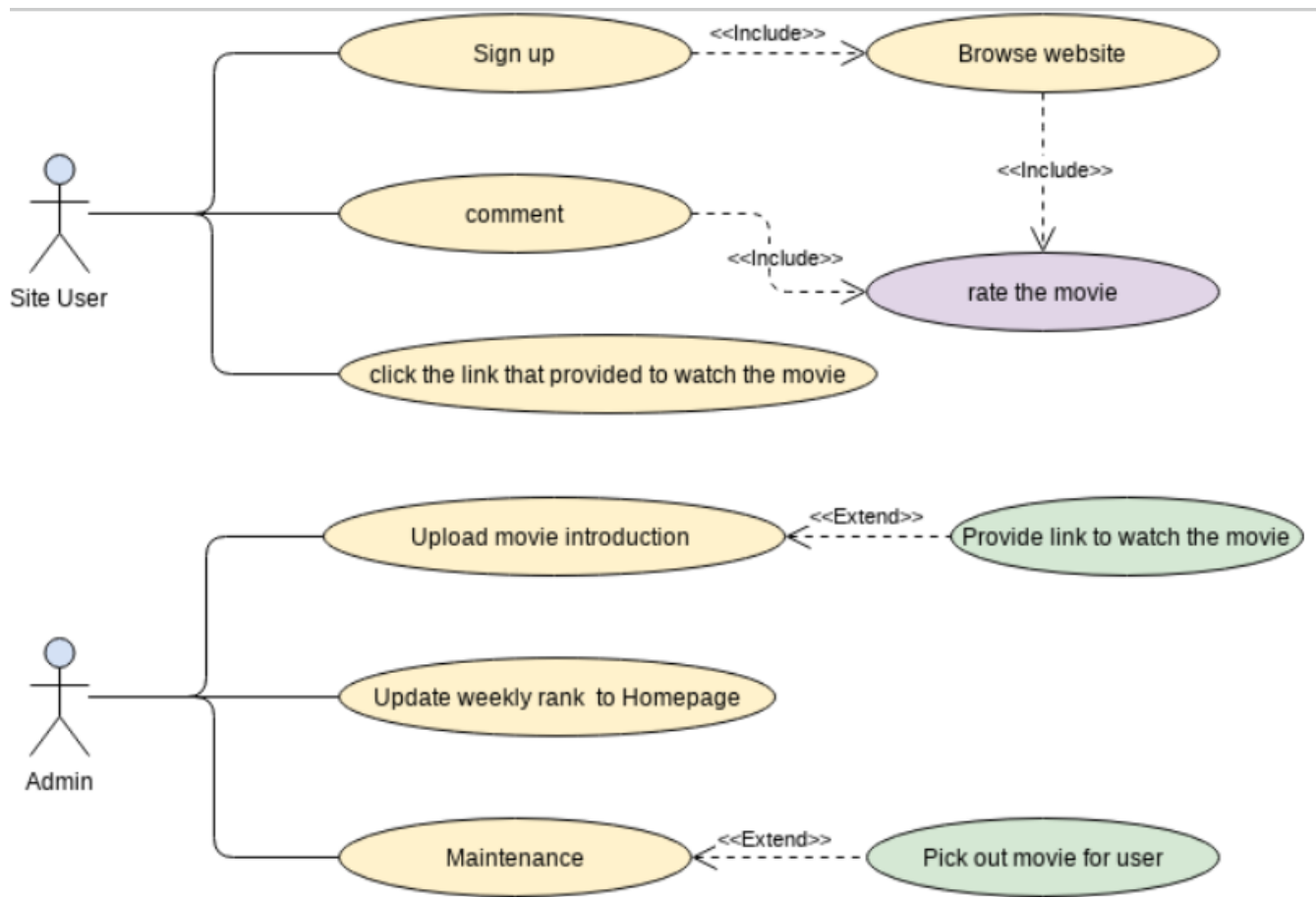
4.1.2

Streaming Website Requirements Specification



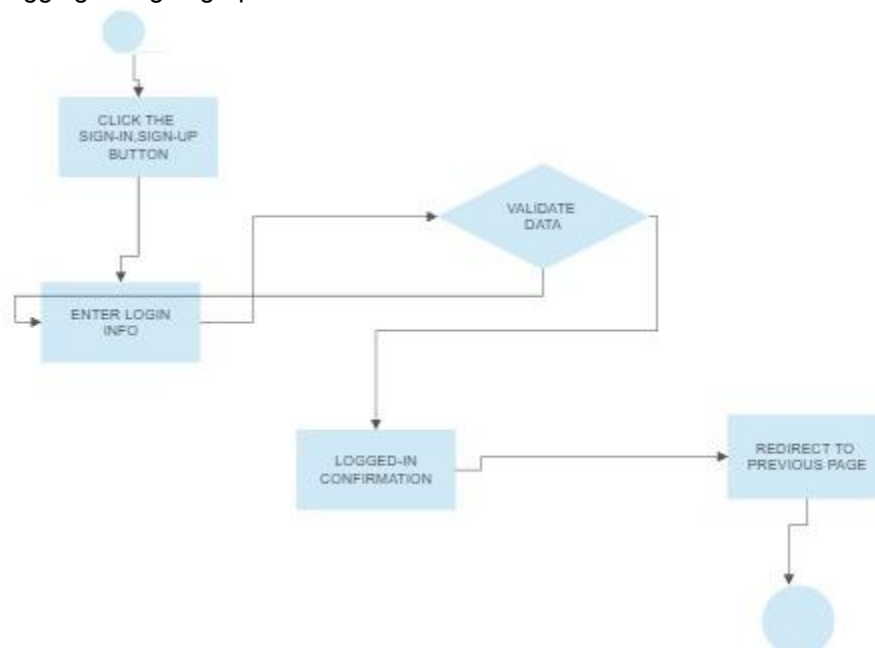
4.1.3

Streaming Website Requirements Specification



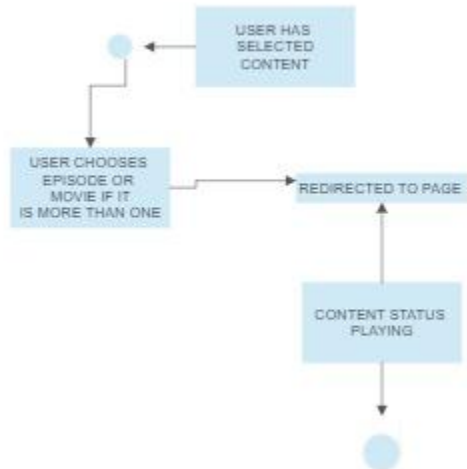
4.2 Activity Diagrams

4.2.1 Logging-in Signing-up

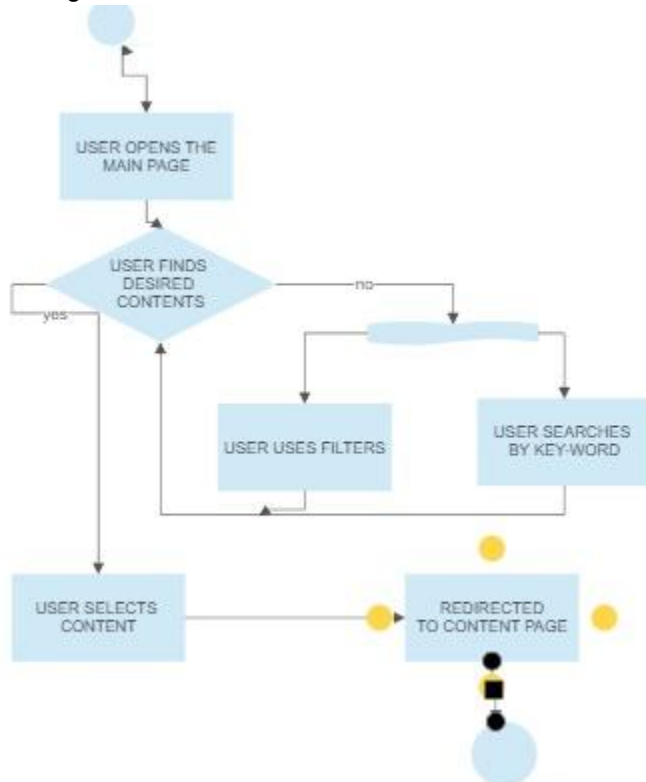


4.2.2 Watching content

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

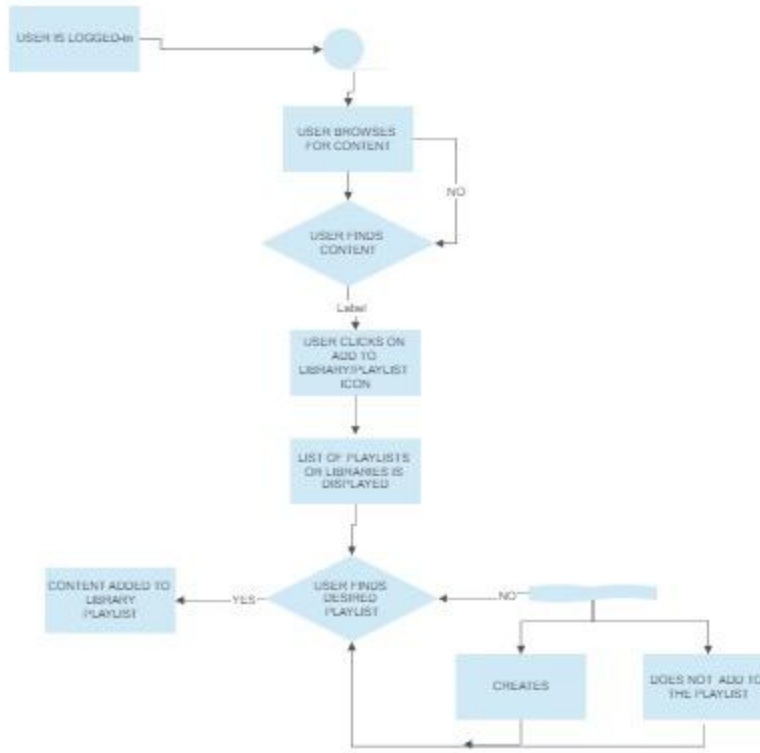


4.2.3 Browsing

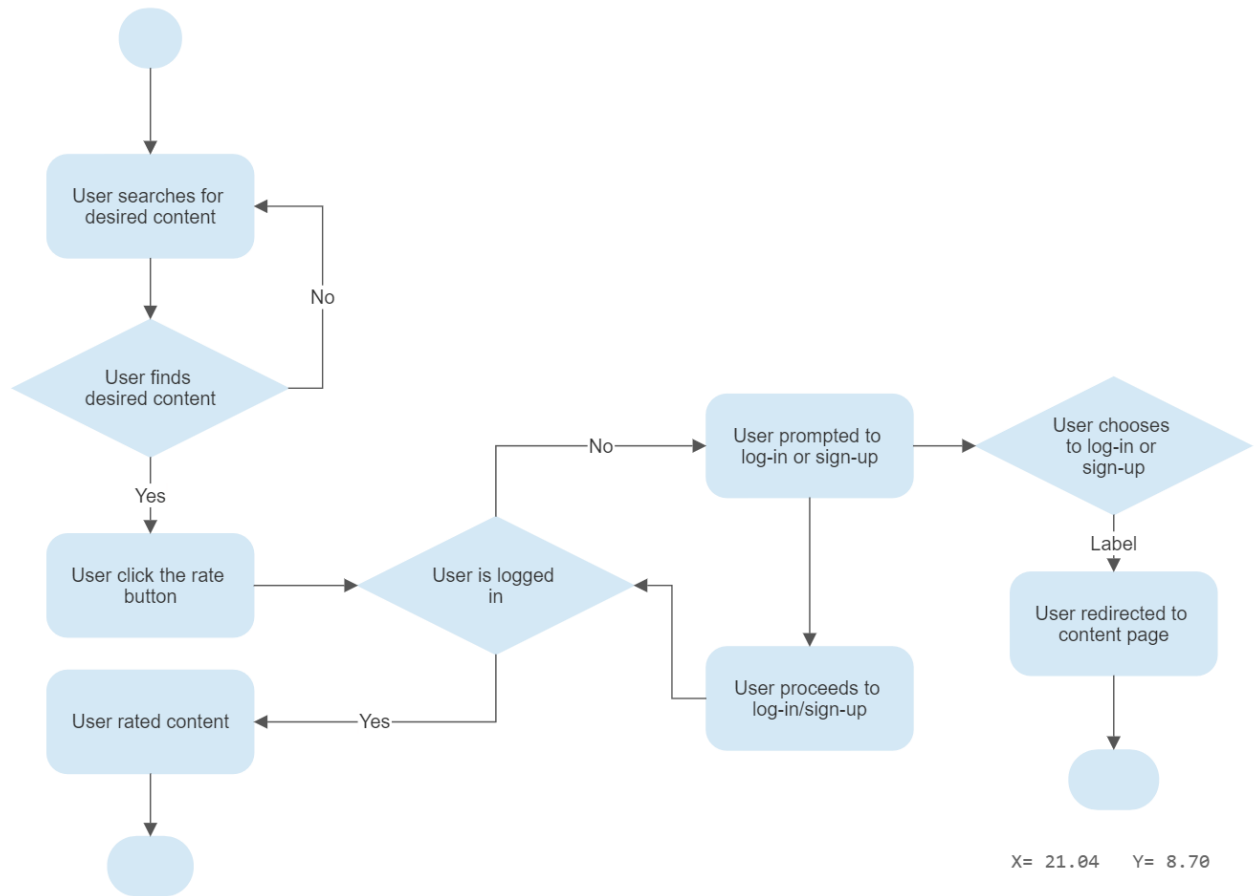


4.2.4 Add to playlist/library

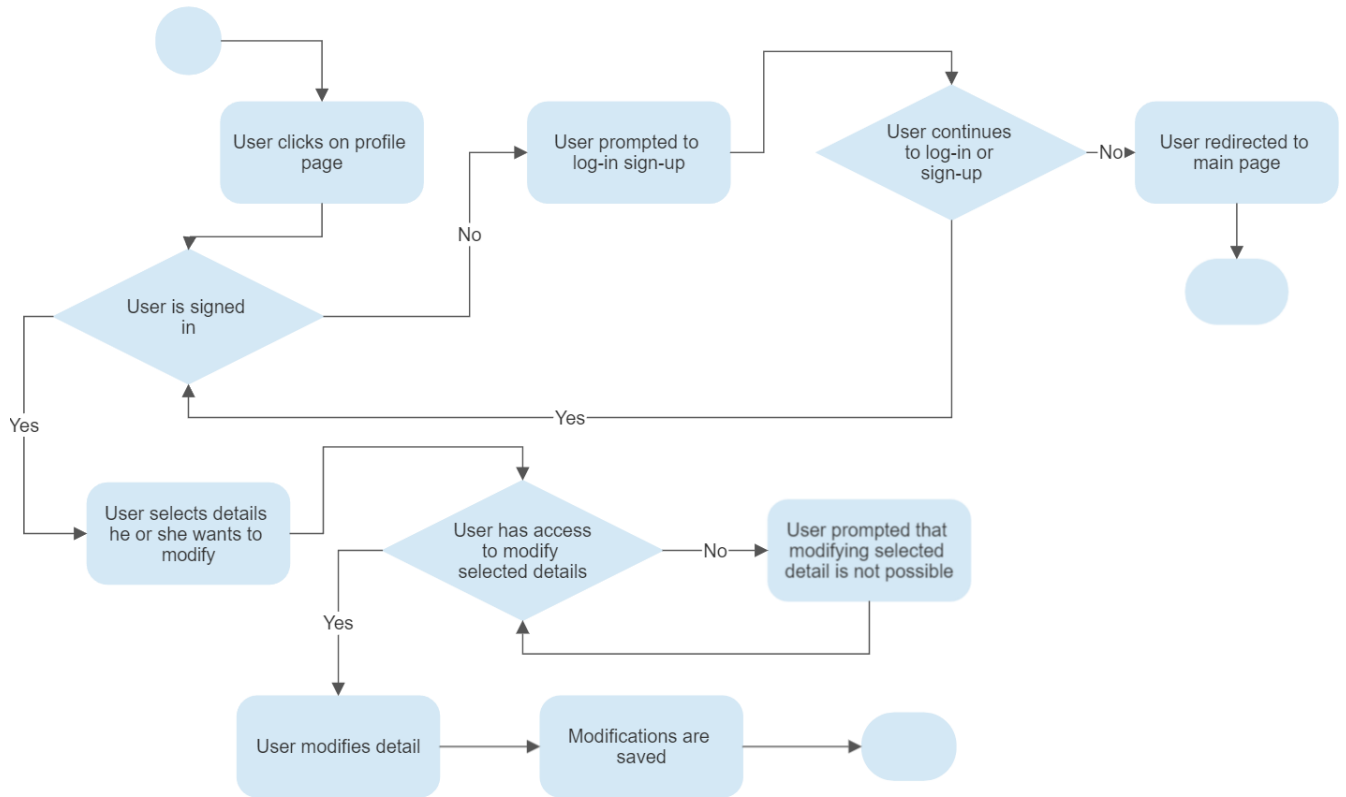
Streaming Website Requirements Specification



4.2.5 Rate content



4.2.6 Manage account

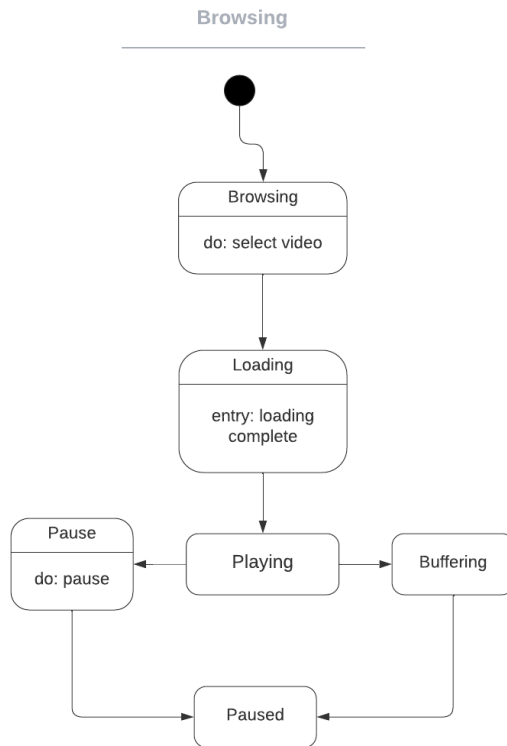


X= 1.54 Y= 1.18

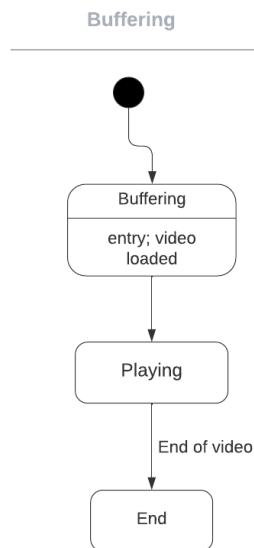
4.3 State Diagrams

4.3.1 Browsing

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

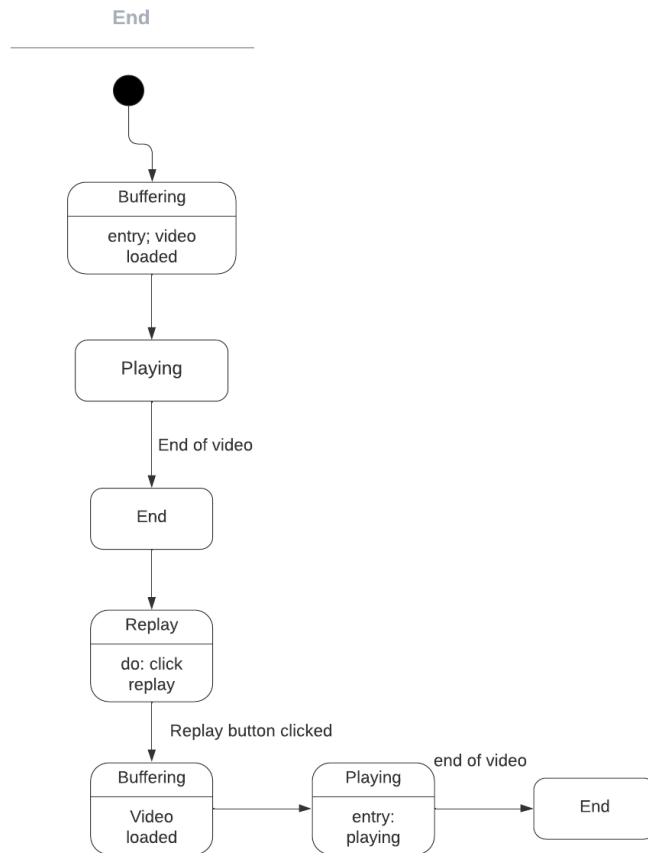


4.3.2 Buffering

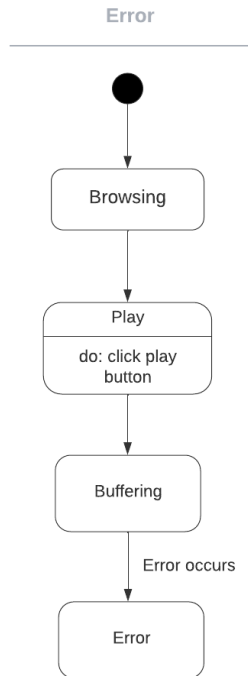


4.3.3 End

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

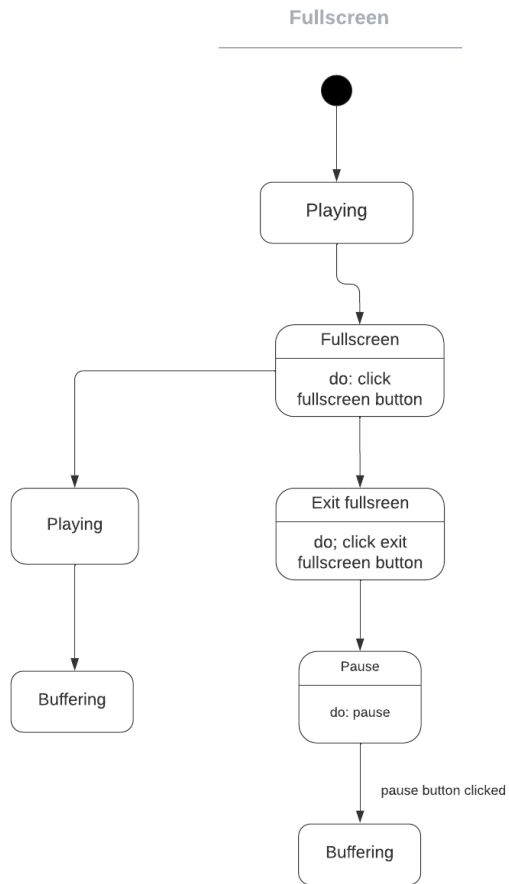


4.3.4 Error



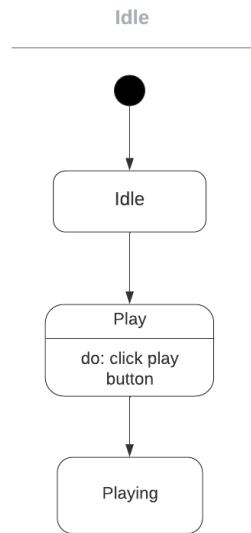
4.3.5 Fullscreen

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

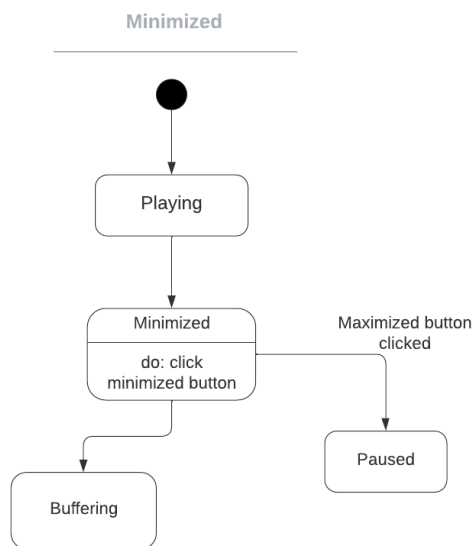


4.3.6 Idle

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

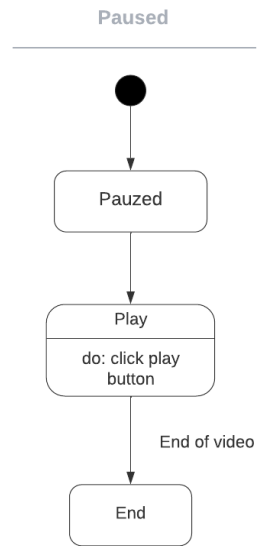


4.3.7 Mnimized

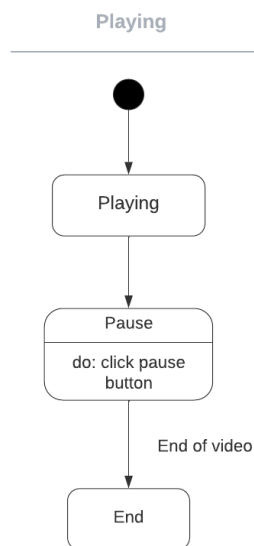


4.3.8 Paused

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

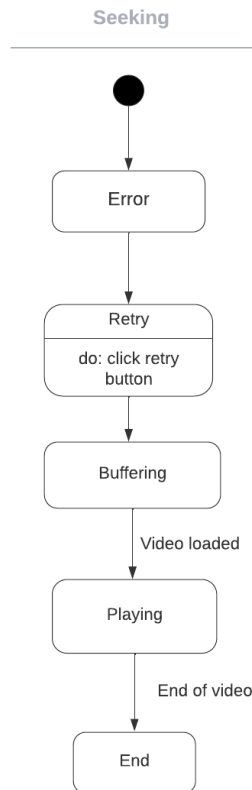


4.3.9 Playing



4.3.10 Seeking

Streaming Website Requirements Specification



Provide a summary of the major functions that the product will perform. Organize the functions to be understandable to the customer or a first time reader. Include use cases and business scenarios, or provide a link to a separate document (or documents). A business scenario:

- Describes a significant business need
- Identifies, documents, and ranks the problem that is driving the scenario
- Describes the business and technical environment that will resolve the problem
- States the desired objectives
- Shows the “Actors” and where they fit in the business model
- Is specific, and measurable, and uses clear metrics for success

APPENDIX

The appendixes are not always considered part of the actual Requirements Specification and are not always necessary. They may include

- Sample input/output formats, descriptions of cost analysis studies, or results of user surveys;
- Supporting or background information that can help the readers of the Requirements Specification;
- A description of the problems to be solved by the system;
- Special packaging instructions for the code and the media to meet security, export, initial loading, or other requirements.

When appendixes are included, the Requirements Specification should explicitly state whether or not the appendixes are to be considered part of the requirements.

Appendix B. Definitions, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

Define all terms, acronyms, and abbreviations used in this document.

Appendix C. References

List all the documents and other materials referenced in this document.

Appendix D. Requirements Traceability Matrix

The following trace matrix examples show one possible use of naming standards for deliverables (FunctionalArea-DocType-NN). The number has no other meaning than to keep the documents unique. For example, the Bargaining Unit Assignment Process Flow would be BUA-PF-01.

For example (1):

Business Requirement	Area	Deliverables	Status
BR_LR_01 The system should validate the relationship between Bargaining Unit/Location and Job Class.---Comments: Business Process = "Assigning a Bargaining Unit to an Appointment" (Priority 1)	BUA	BUA-CD-01 Assign BU Conceptual Design	Accepted
		BUA-PF-01 Derive Bargaining Unit-Process Flow Diagram	Accepted
		BUA-PF-01 Derive Bargaining Unit-Process Flow Diagram	Accepted
BR_LR_09 The system should provide the capability for the Labor Relations Office to maintain the job class/union relationship.---Comments: Business Process = "Maintenance" (Priority 1)	BUA	BUA-CD-01 Assign BU Conceptual Design	Accepted
		BUA-PF-02 BU Assignment Rules Maint Process Flow Diagram	ReadyForReview

For example (2):

BizReqID	Pri	Major Area	DevTstItems DelivID	Deliv Name	Status
BR_LR_01	1	BUA	BUA-CD-01	Assign BU Conceptual Design	Accepted
BR_LR_01	1	BUA	BUA-DS-02	Bargaining Unit Assignment DB Modification Description	Accepted
BR_LR_01	1	BUA	BUA-PF-01	Derive Bargaining Unit-Process Flow Diagram	Accepted
BR_LR_01	1	BUA	BUA-UCD-01	BU Assign LR UseCase Diagram	ReadyForReview

Streaming Website Requirements Specification

BizReqID	Pri	Major Area	DevTstItems DelivID	Deliv Name	Status
BR_LR_01	1	BUA	BUA-UCT-001	BU Assignment by PC UseCase - Add Appointment and Derive UBU	Reviewed
BR_LR_01	1	BUA	BUA-UCT-002	BU Assignment by PC UseCase - Add Appointment (UBU Not Found)	Reviewed
BR_LR_01	1	BUA	BUA-UCT-006	BU Assignment by PC UseCase - Modify Appointment (Removed UBU)	Reviewed
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-CD-01	Assign BU Conceptual Design	Accepted
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-DS-02	Bargaining Unit Assignment DB Modification Description	Accepted
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-PF-02	BU Assignment Rules Maint Process Flow Diagram	Accepted
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-UCD-03	BU Assign Rules Maint UseCase Diagram	Reviewed
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-UCT-045	BU Assignment Rules Maint: Successfully Add New Assignment Rule	Reviewed
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-UCT-051	BU Assignment Rules MaintUseCase: Modify Rule	Reviewed
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-UCT-053	BU Assignment Rules MaintUseCase - Review Assignment Rules	Reviewed
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-UCT-057	BU Assignment Rules MaintUseCase: Inactivate Last Rule for a BU	Reviewed
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-UI-02	BU AssignRules Maint UI Mockups	ReadyForReview
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-TC-021	BU Assignment Rules Maint TestCase: Add New Rule (Associated Job Class Does Not Exist) - Success	ReadyForReview
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-TC-027	BU Assignment Rules Maint TestCase: Modify Rule - Success	ReadyForReview
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-TC-035	BU Assignment Rules Maint TestCase: Add New Rule (Associated Job Class Does Not Exist) - Error Condition	ReadyForReview
BR_LR_09	1	BUA	BUA-TC-049	BU Assignment Rules Maint TestCase: Modify Rule - Error Condition	ReadyForReview

For example (3):

BizReqID	CD01	CD02	CD03	CD04	UI01	UI02	UCT01	UCT02	UCT03	TC01	TC02	TC03	TC04
BR_LR_01			X		X		X			X		X	
BR_LR_09	X			X		X			X		X		X
BR_LR_10	X			X					X		X		
BR_LR_11		X											

Appendix E. Organizing the Requirements

This section is for information only as an aid in preparing the requirements document.

Detailed requirements tend to be extensive. Give careful consideration to your organization scheme. Some examples of organization schemes are described below:

By System Mode

Some systems behave quite differently depending on the mode of operation. For example, a control system may have different sets of functions depending on its mode: training, normal, or emergency.

By User Class

Some systems provide different sets of functions to different classes of users. For example, an elevator control system presents different capabilities to passengers, maintenance workers, and fire fighters.

By Objects

Objects are real-world entities that have a counterpart within the system. For example, in a patient monitoring system, objects include patients, sensors, nurses, rooms, physicians, medicines, etc. Associated with each object is a set of attributes (of that object) and functions (performed by that object). These functions are also called services, methods, or processes. Note that sets of objects may share attributes and services. These are grouped together as classes.

By Feature

A feature is an externally desired service by the system that may require a sequence of inputs to affect the desired result. For example, in a telephone system, features include local call, call forwarding, and conference call. Each feature is generally described in a sequence of stimulus-response pairs, and may include validity checks on inputs, exact sequencing of operations, responses to abnormal situations, including error handling and recovery, effects of parameters, relationships of inputs to outputs, including input/output sequences and formulas for input to output.

By Stimulus

Some systems can be best organized by describing their functions in terms of stimuli. For example, the functions of an automatic aircraft landing system may be organized into sections for loss of power, wind shear, sudden change in roll, vertical velocity excessive, etc.

By Response

Some systems can be best organized by describing all the functions in support of the generation of a response. For example, the functions of a personnel system may be organized into sections corresponding to all functions associated with generating paychecks, all functions associated with generating a current list of employees, etc.

By Functional Hierarchy

When none of the above organizational schemes prove helpful, the overall functionality can be organized into a hierarchy of functions organized by common inputs, common outputs, or common internal data access. Data flow diagrams and data dictionaries can be used to show the relationships between and among the functions and data.

Additional Comments

Whenever a new Requirements Specification is contemplated, more than one of the organizational techniques given above may be appropriate. In such cases, organize the specific requirements for multiple hierarchies tailored to the specific needs of the system under specification.

There are many notations, methods, and automated support tools available to aid in the documentation of requirements. For the most part, their usefulness is a function of organization. For example, when organizing by mode, finite state machines or state charts may prove helpful; when organizing by object, object-oriented analysis may prove helpful; when organizing by feature, stimulus-response sequences may prove helpful; and when organizing by functional hierarchy, data flow diagrams and data dictionaries may prove helpful.