

Software Testing Methodologies

Requirements Traceability Matrix (RTM)

What is Traceability Matrix?

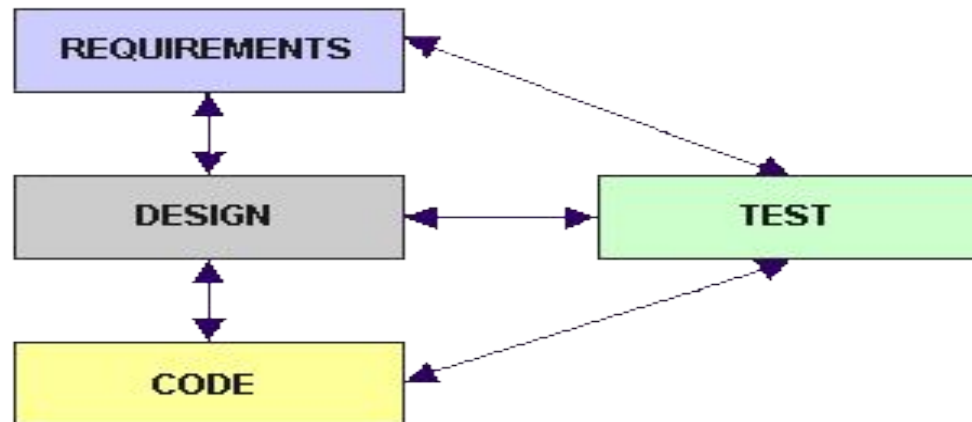
A Traceability Matrix is a means to trace requirements back and forth between the various activities and stages in the project lifecycle

Forward Requirements Traceability:

- To trace how a requirement will be tested or implemented






Backward Requirements Traceability:

- To trace the origin of Design/Code/Testing activity to its requirement



When is Traceability Matrix Created/Updated?

- Traceability Matrix is Created at the end of Business Study Phase, when requirements are frozen.
- Traceability Matrix is Updated when Design Documents, Coding, Test Plans are completed.

Business Study Phase		Created
Design Phase		Updated
Build Phase		Updated
Testing Phase		Updated
Implementation Phase		Updated

How is Traceability Matrix Created?

- A Traceability Matrix is created by associating requirements with the deliverables that satisfy them.
- To Create a Requirements Traceability Matrix, the requirements can be taken as listed in the Requirements Specification document. If some requirements are at a very high level, then they should be broken down into more meaningful requirements.
- The Traceability Matrix requires unique identifiers for each requirement and deliverable.
- The relationship of requirements to solution can be one-to-one, one-to-many, many-to-one, or many-to-many.
- In a typical project, Business Analyst will create the Traceability Matrix and it will be updated by the Technical Analyst, Design Lead, Programmers etc. at different stages.

Traceability Matrix Benefits

- Using a Traceability matrix will help to ensure completeness.
- All lower level deliverables (HLD, LLD etc.) come from higher level requirements (SRS).
- All higher level requirements are allocated to lower level deliverables.
- When software changes occur, the Traceability Matrix makes it relatively easy to evaluate the impact the changes may have on other parts of the development process.
- By maintaining the traceability matrix during the project lifecycle any gaps between requirements and lower level deliverables can be easily identified.

Traceability Matrix Benefits Contd..

- The Traceability Matrix can be used to Check the coverage of Testing.
- Whenever a design or test phase is completed, a verification exercise should be conducted to ensure that all requirements have been considered; traceability to HLD and LLD documents enables this task to be done efficiently.
- The Traceability Matrix give the project team confidence that all the requirements are being delivered.
- By updating the Traceability Matrix at different stages of a project, any inconsistencies between SRS and Lower Level Deliverables like HLD/LLD will be highlighted and hence Design Document quality will improve.

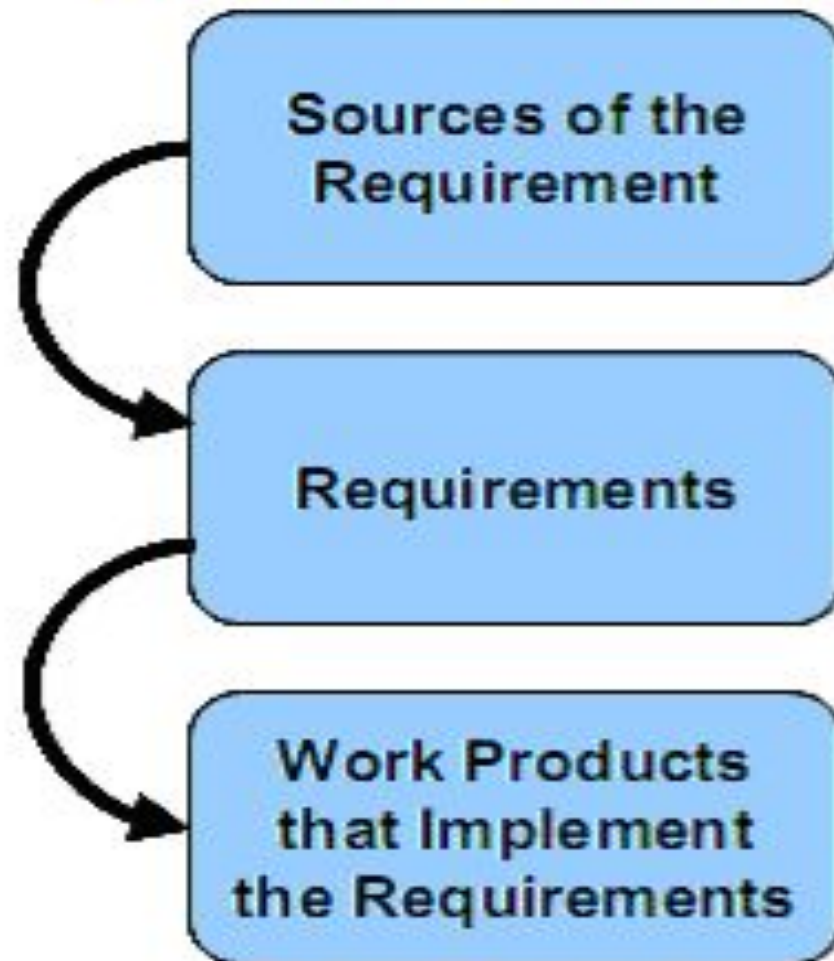
Requirement Traceability Matrix (RTM)

Traceability matrix structure:

- Requirement are associated with the scenarios which in turn associated with test cases.
- Tests are associated with the scenarios which in turn associated with requirements.

REQUIREMENT \longleftrightarrow TEST SCENARIOS \longleftrightarrow TEST CASES

Forward Traceability

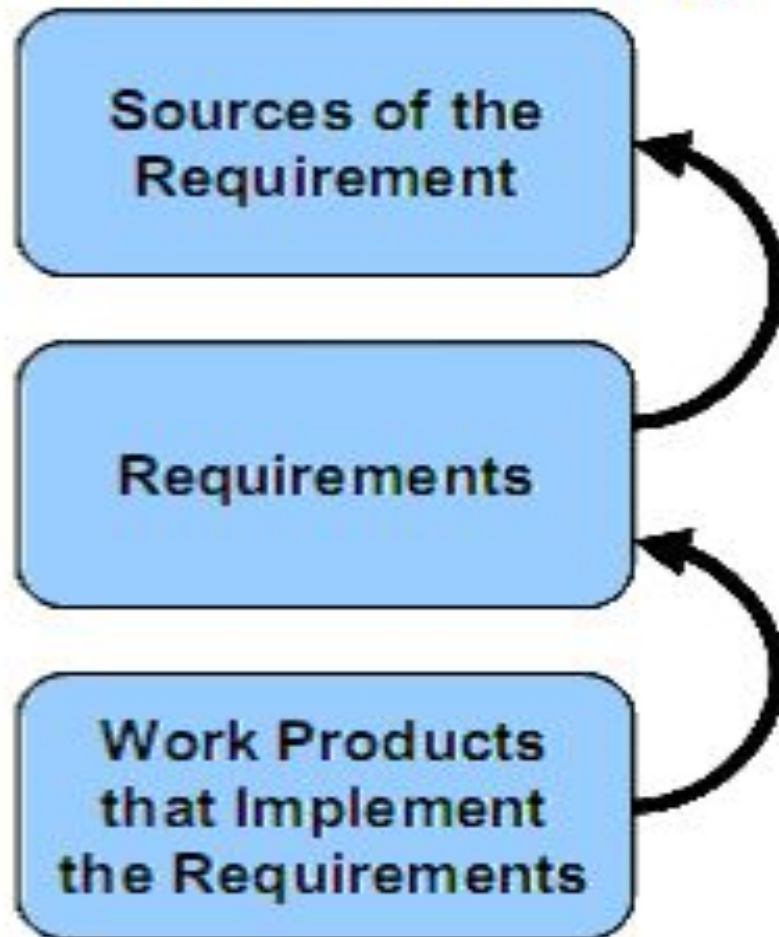


Types of Requirement Traceability Matrix (RTM)

Forward Traceability:

- Tracing the requirements sources to their final product requirement(s) to ensure the completeness of the product requirement specification.
- Tracing each unique product requirement forward into the design that implements that requirement, the code that implements that design and the tests that validate that requirement and so on.

Backward Traceability



Types of Requirement Traceability Matrix (RTM)

Backward Traceability:

- Tracing each requirement back to its source(s).
- Tracing each unique work product (e.g., design element, object/class, code unit, test) back to its associated requirement.

Example of Types of RTM

Example of Forward & Backward Traceability Matrix:

Forward Traceability Matrix

ID	USER REQUIREMENTS	FORWARD TRACEABILITY
U2	Users shall process retirement claims.	S10, S11, S12
U3	Users shall process survivor claims.	S13

Backward Traceability Matrix

ID	FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS	BACKWARD TRACEABILITY
S10	The system shall accept requirement data.	U2
S11	The system shall calculate the amount of retirement.	U2
S12	The system shall calculate point-to-point travel time.	U2
S13	The system shall calculate the amount of survivor annuity	U3

The example shows forward and backward tracing between user and system requirements. User requirement identifiers begin with "U" and system requirements with "S"

Contents of RTM

Contents of Requirement Traceability Matrix:

- Project ID
- Prepared By
- Total Requirement #
- New Requirement #
- Project Name
- Creation date
- Total Scenarios #
- Modified Requirements #
- Requirement Owner Name
- Modification Date
- Total Test Case #
- Deleted Requirement #



Contents Of RTM Contd...

Contents of Requirement Traceability Matrix:

- Sr.No.
- Requirement ID
- Requirement Description
- Requirement Priority
- Test Scenario ID
- Test Case ID
- Requirement Type
- Request Status
- Module Name
- Sub Module Name
- Baseline Document
- Remarks



Thankyou!

