# User Manual for Software Project Economic Analysis and Decision-Making Tool

# 1. System Introduction

### 1.1 System Overview

The Software Project Economic Analysis and Decision-Making Tool is an interactive software designed to assist software engineering teams in evaluating economic decisions throughout the Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC). The tool integrates four core modules—Cost Estimation, Budget Management, Risk Management, and Resource Optimization—to provide data-driven decision support for project stakeholders.

# 1.2 Technology Stack

• Frontend Framework: React + TypeScript + Vite

o Backend Framework: Node.js

Visualization Technology: chart.js

Database: MySQL

### 1.3 System Access

- 1. Ensure Node.js (v14+) and npm are installed in the local environment.
- 2. Clone the project repository.
- 3. Execute npm install in the project root directory to install dependencies.
- 4. Run npm run dev to start the development server.
- 5. Access http://localhost:5000 in a browser.

# 2. Quick Start

# 2.1 System Login

- 1. Open the browser and visit the system homepage.
- 2. Enter the registered email and password on the login page.
- 3. Click the **Login** button.
- 4. For first-time use, click **Register here** to create an account.

# 2.2 System Navigation

The top navigation bar after login includes the following modules:

- Economics Estimation: Cost estimation module
- Budgeting & Cost Management: Budget and cost management
- Risk Management: Risk management

### 3. User Guide for Cost Estimation Module

#### 3.1 Function Overview

Supports multiple cost estimation methods, including the COCOMO model, Function Point Analysis, Expert Judgment, etc., allowing input of project attributes and comparison of outputs from different models.

### 3.2 COCOMO Model Estimation Steps

- 1. Go to the **Economics Estimation** module.
- 2. Select COCOMO under Empirical Estimation Methods.
- 3. Enter the following parameters:
  - kloc: Kilolines of code (e.g., 50)
  - cost\_per\_pm: Cost per person-month (e.g., 12000)
  - mode: Project mode (organic/semi-detached/embedded)
  - Other coefficients: RELY/DATA/CPLX/TIME/STOR (default values can be kept unchanged).
- 4. Click the Calculate button.
- 5. View estimation results, including effort, development time, and total cost.

# 3.3 Multi-Model Comparison

- 1. Select the **Compare Models** tab on the cost estimation page.
- 2. Check the models to compare (e.g., COCOMO, Function Points).
- 3. Enter project parameters.
- 4. The system automatically generates a comparison chart of results from each model.
- 5. View model deviations through the DiffFromAverage indicator.

# 4. Budget and Cost Management Module

#### 4.1 Financial Indicator Calculation

- 1. Go to the **Budgeting & Cost Management** module.
- 2. Click Financial Metrics Calculator.
- 3. Enter the following parameters:
  - Initial Investment
  - Cash Flows for each period
  - Discount Rate
- 4. The system automatically calculates:
  - ROI (Return on Investment): (Total Income Total Investment) / Total Investment \* 100%

- NPV (Net Present Value):  $\Sigma(\text{Cash Flow} / (1 + \text{Discount Rate})^t) \text{Initial}$ Investment
- IRR (Internal Rate of Return): Calculated using the Newton-Raphson method
- Payback Period

# 4.2 Budget Tracking

- 1. Click Create New Budget on the budget management page.
- 2. Enter basic budget information (project name, total amount, time range).
- 3. Add budget items (Category/Planned Amount).
- 4. Update actual expenses regularly (Actual Amount).
- 5. The system automatically calculates deviations and generates trend charts.

# 5. Risk Management Module

# **5.1 Sensitivity Analysis**

- 1. Go to the **Risk Management** module.
- 2. Select **Sensitivity Analysis**.
- 3. Enter the following parameters:
  - Base Value: e.g., 10000
  - Variations: -20% to +20%
- 4. Click Calculer Sensitivity.
- 5. View result changes under different variables (e.g., impact of development cost fluctuations).
- 6. The system generates a sensitivity analysis chart identifying key variables.

#### 5.2 Monte Carlo Simulation

- 1. Select **Monte Carlo** on the risk management page.
- 2. Enter the following parameters:
  - Number of Simulations (Nombre de tirages): Recommended 1000
  - Minimum Cost (min): e.g., 8000
  - Maximum Cost (max): e.g., 12000
- 3. Click Calculer Monte Carlo.
- 4. View simulation results:
  - Mean (Moyenne)
  - Standard Deviation (Écart-type)
  - Confidence Interval (95% Confidence Interval)
  - Probability distribution chart

# 6. Resource Allocation and Optimization Module

# **6.1 Scenario Analysis**

- 1. Go to the **Resources Allocation** module.
- 2. Click **Add Scenario** to add a scenario.
- 3. Enter scenario information:
  - Scenario Name (e.g., "Chinese Version")
  - Duration (in days)
  - Daily Effort (in hours/day)
- 4. Click **Add Task** to add tasks.
- 5. Enter task parameters: effort, resource requirements.
- 6. Click **Analyze Scenarios** to generate analysis results.

# **6.2 Resource Leveling**

- 1. Select **Resource Leveling** on the resource allocation page.
- 2. Upload the project plan (or enter the task list manually).
- 3. Set Resource Limits.
- 4. Click Execute Leveling.
- 5. The system automatically adjusts non-critical path tasks:
  - Resolves over-allocation of resources
  - Optimizes resource utilization
- 6. View the leveled resource Gantt chart and utilization graph.

# 7. Advanced Functions

# 7.1 Data Import/Export

- 1. Supports import of historical project data in CSV/Excel format.
- 2. Click Import Data on each module detail page.
- 3. Select the file and map fields.
- 4. Supports export of analysis reports in PDF/PPT format.
- 5. Click **Export Report** on the results page to select the format.

#### 7.2 Custom Models

- 1. Go to System Settings (Settings).
- 2. Select Custom Models.
- 3. Enter the formula for the custom estimation model.
- 4. After saving, it can be used in the cost estimation module.

# 8. System Settings and Help

### 8.1 Account Settings

- 1. Click the user avatar in the upper right corner.
- 2. Select **Profile** to modify personal information.
- 3. Select **Change Password** to update the password.

# 8.2 Help Center

- 1. Click **Help** in the navigation bar.
- 2. View built-in help documentation (In-context help).
- 3. Access the online user manual (PDF/HTML).
- 4. Watch tutorial videos for typical cases (Tutorial Videos).

# 9. Troubleshooting

#### 9.1 Common Issues

- 1. **Login Failure**: Ensure the email and password are correct; click **Forgot Password** to reset.
- 2. **Abnormal Calculation Results**: Check if input parameters are within a reasonable range (e.g., kloc > 0).
- 3. **Chart Loading Failure**: Refresh the page or check the network connection.

# 9.2 Performance Optimization

- 1. Long Monte Carlo simulation time: Reduce the number of simulations (default is 1000).
- 2. Slow system response: Close other resource-intensive applications.
- 3. Browser lag: Clear the cache or use the latest version of Chrome/Firefox.







