

Software Quality Engineering

Week 2

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Inspecting SRS using Fault Checklist Method

Inspection of Software Requirements Document

- ▶ Fault Checklist Technique
- ▶ Checklist Method
 - ▶ General Faults
 - ▶ Omission Faults
 - ▶ Commission Faults
 - ▶ Other Faults
- ▶ Fault Form
 - ▶ Fields
 - ▶ Example

Fault Checklist Technique

Question: How does one detect fault?

Answer:

1. By reading the document
2. By understanding what the document describes
3. By answering the questions in the fault checklist

Checklist Method

- ▶ General Faults
- ▶ Omission Faults
- ▶ Commission Faults
- ▶ Other Faults

Checklist Method: General Faults

- ▶ Are the goals of system defined?
- ▶ Are the requirements clear and unambiguous?
- ▶ Is a functional overview of system provided?
- ▶ Is an overview of operational modes provided?
- ▶ If assumptions that affect implementation have been made, are they stated?
- ▶ Have the requirements been stated in the terms of inputs, outputs, and processing for each function?
- ▶ Are all functions, devices, constraints traced to requirements and vice versa?
- ▶ Are the required attributes, assumptions and constraints of the system completely listed?

Checklist Method:

Omission Faults

- ▶ Missing Functionality
 - ▶ Are the desired functions sufficient to meet the system objectives?
 - ▶ Are all inputs to a function sufficient to perform the required function?
 - ▶ Are undesired events considered and their required responses specified?
 - ▶ Are the initial and special states considered (e.g., system initiation, abnormal termination)?
- ▶ Missing Performance
 - ▶ Can the system be tested, demonstrated, analyzed or inspected to show that it satisfies the requirements?
- ▶ Missing Interface
 - ▶ Are the inputs and outputs for all interfaces sufficient?
 - ▶ Are the interface requirements between hardware, software, personnel and procedures included?
- ▶ Missing Environment
 - ▶ Have the functionality of hardware or software interacting with the system been properly specified?

Checklist Method:

Commission Faults

► **Ambiguous Information**

- Are the individual requirements stated so that they are discrete, unambiguous, and testable?
- Are all mode transitions specified deterministically?

► **Inconsistent Information**

- Are the requirements mutually consistent?
- Are the functional requirements consistent with the overview?
- Are the functional requirements consistent with the actual operating system?

► **Inconsistent and Extra Functionality**

- Are all desired functions necessary to meet the system objectives?
- Are all inputs to a function necessary to perform the required function?
- Are the inputs and outputs for all interfaces necessary?
- Are all the outputs produced by a function used by another function or transferred across an external interface?

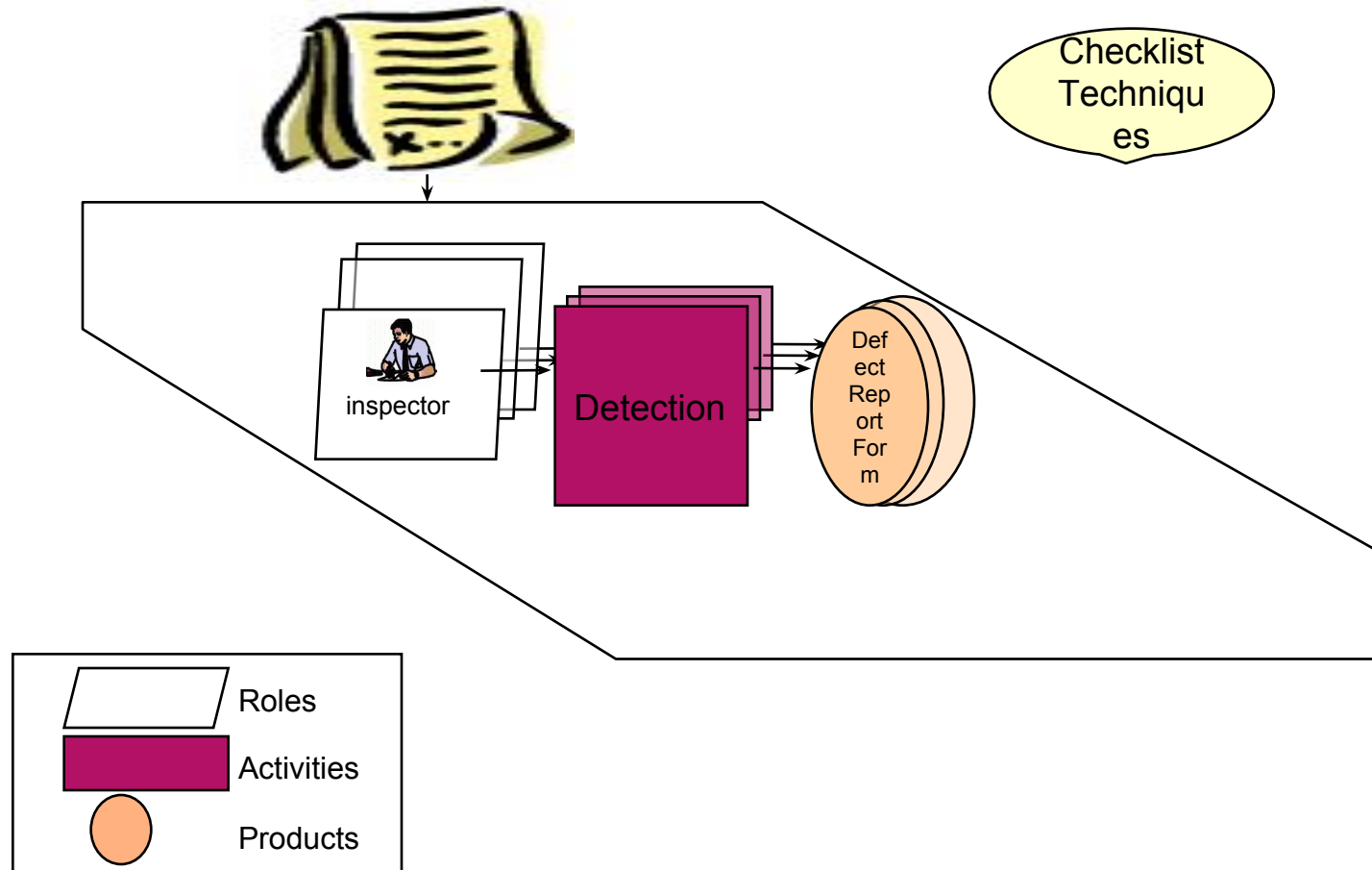
► **Wrong Section**

- Are all the requirements, interfaces, constraints, etc. listed in the appropriate sections?

► **Other Faults**

- *If you find additional faults, not related to specific questions on the checklist, that do not fall in any of the existing categories, classify it as Other (O).*

Study Run



Fault Form

Name:

Start time:

Fault #	Page #	Requirement #	Fault Class	Description	Time found	Importance level	Probability of causing failure	Break

End time:

Fault Form: Fields

- ▶ **Fault #**- serial identification number (e.g., 1,2,3 etc)
- ▶ **Page #**- maps to the page number in a SRS document where that fault is present (e.g., 3,5,6 etc)
- ▶ **Requirement #**- maps to a particular requirement number where a fault is found (e.g., FR2.1, FR3 etc)

Fault Form: **Fields**

- ▶ **Fault class**- describes the classification of a fault. A fault is classified in following classes using fault checklist
 - ▶ General (G)
 - ▶ Missing Functionality (MF)
 - ▶ Missing Performance (MP)
 - ▶ Missing Interface (MI)
 - ▶ Missing Environment (ME)
 - ▶ Ambiguous Information (AI)
 - ▶ Inconsistent Information (II)
 - ▶ Incorrect or Extra Functionality (EF)
 - ▶ Wrong Section (WS)
 - ▶ Other (O)
- ▶ **Description**- provides a brief but clear description of the fault in the requirements document. This description should be clear enough for a developer to understand and fix it without having to talk to you
- ▶ **Time found**- it is the time when a particular fault was found

Fault Form: **Fields**

- ▶ **Importance level**- this is the scale of importance of a particular requirement fault found during inspection and has to be classified as per following scale:
 - ▶ 0: not important, designer should easily see the problem
 - ▶ 1: problem, if a failure occurs it should be easy to find and fix (e.g. change to 1 module)
 - ▶ 2: important, if a failure occurs, it could be hard to find and fix (e.g. change to few modules)
 - ▶ 3: very important, if a failure occurs, it could be very hard to find and fix (e.g., change to several modules and their dependencies)
 - ▶ 4: if a failure occurs, it could cause a redesign

Fault Form: Fields

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- ▶ **Probability of causing failure**- describes the probability scale that a particular fault can cause system failure using following scale:
 - ▶ 0: will not cause fault or failure, regardless whether it is caught by the designer
 - ▶ 1: will not cause fault or failure, because it will be caught by designer
 - ▶ 2: could cause a failure, but will most likely be caught by designer
 - ▶ 3: would cause a failure, will most likely not be caught by designer
- ▶ **Break**: describes the time breaks during the inspection

Fault Form: Example

Fault #	Page #	Requirement #	Fault Class	Description	Time found	Importance level	Probability of causing failure	Break
1	3	FR2	AI	..... ..... ..... ...	9:30 AM	3	2	
2	5	FR3.5.6	IF	..... ..... .....	10:00 AM	1	2	Break: 10 AM
3	12	FR 5.2	MI	..... ..... .....	1 PM	2	1	Resume 12 PM
4	14	FR 5.3.2	MP	..... ..... .....	2 PM	0	0	