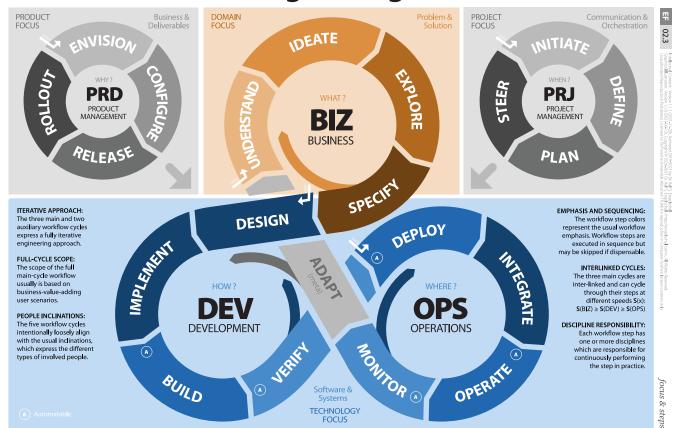


Software Engineering in der industriellen Praxis (SEIP)

Dr. Ralf S. Engelschall

Software Engineering Workflow





The Workflow Model describes the work segregation in Software Engineering. In the **Workflow**, three main and two auxiliary workflow cycles express the iterative approach. The full main-cycle workflow is usually based on business-value-adding user scenarios.

The three main cycles are interlinked and can cycle through their steps at different speeds, S(x), with S(BIZ) is greater or equal S(DEV), which in turn is greater or equal S(OPS). Because the cycles with earlier steps should not slow down the cycles not later steps.

The step colors represent workflow emphasis. Workflow steps are executed in sequence but may be skipped if dispensable.

The ten discipline areas of Software Engineering express the different roles of involved people. The five inclinations express the different types of involved people. Hence the Workflow consists of exactly five cycles.

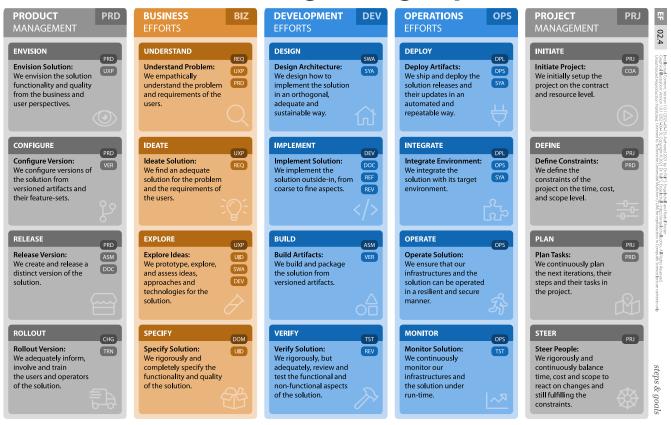
Questions

What does the Workflow-Model of Software Engineering describe?



Software Engineering Steps





Software Engineering, on an operational level, can be alternatively understood through 20 distinct **Steps** which are continuously performed within the **Software Engineering Workflow**. Each Step belongs to one primarily responsible Discipline and zero or more secondarily responsible Disciplines.

Workflow Steps are the adequate concept to understand which activities have to be performed in each iteration of a **Software Engineering Process**.

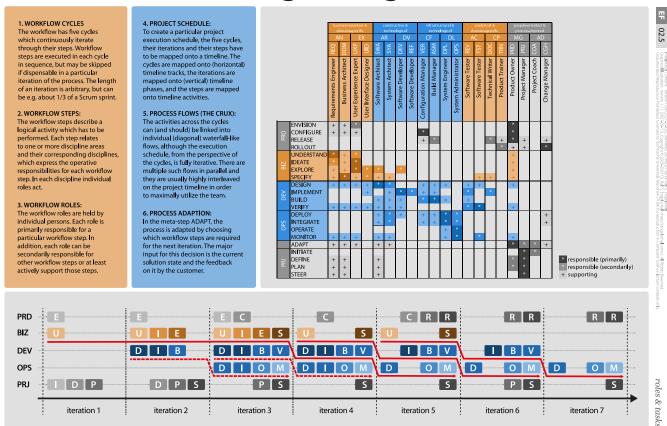
Questions

Which concept allows one to best understand which activities have be performed in a Software Engineering Process?



Software Engineering Process





The workflow has five main cycles which continuously iterate through their steps. Workflow steps are executed in each cycle in sequence but may be skipped if dispensable.

The workflow steps are annotated with discipline areas to express operative responsibilities. In each area, multiple roles act.

The workflow roles are held by individual persons. Each role is primarily responsible for a particular workflow step. In addition, each role can be secondarily responsible for other workflow steps or at least actively support those steps.

To create a particular project execution schedule, the five cycles, their iterations and their steps have to be mapped onto a timeline. The cycles are mapped onto (horizontal) timeline tracks, the iterations are mapped onto (vertical) timeline phases, and the steps are mapped onto timeline activities.

The activities across the cycles can (and should) be linked into individual (diagonal) waterfall-like flows, although the execution schedule, from the perspective of the cycles, is fully iterative. There are multiple such flows in parallel, and they are usually highly interleaved on the project timeline in order to maximally utilize the team.

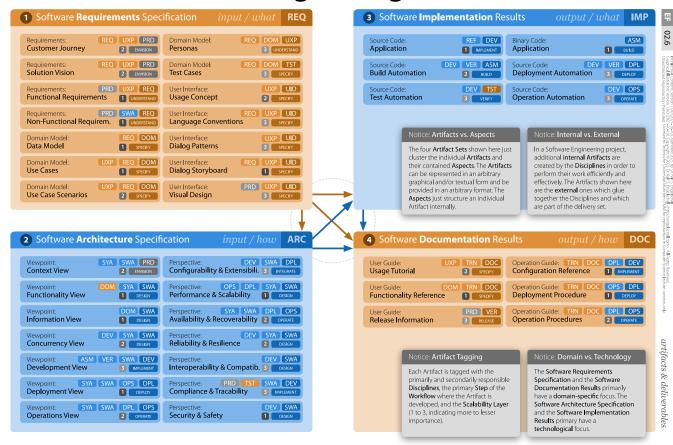
Questions

How can maximum utilization of the team be achieved in Software Engineering, despite a division of labor?



Software Engineering Artifacts





The four **Artifact Sets** just cluster the individual **Artifacts** and their contained **Aspects**. The **Artifacts** can be represented in an arbitrary graphical and/or textual form and be provided in an arbitrary format. The **Aspects** just structure an individual Artifact internally.

In a Software Engineering project, additional **internal** Artifacts are created by the **Disciplines** in order to perform their work efficiently and effectively. The shown Artifacts are just the **external** ones which glue together the Disciplines and which are part of the delivery set.

Each **Artifact** is tagged with the primarily and secondarily responsible **Disciplines**, the primary **Step** of the Workflow where the Artifact is developed, and the Scalability Layer (1 to 3, indicating more to lesser importance).

The Software Requirements Specification and the Software Documentation Results primarily have a domain-specific focus. The Software Architecture Specification and the Software Implementation Results primary have a technological focus.

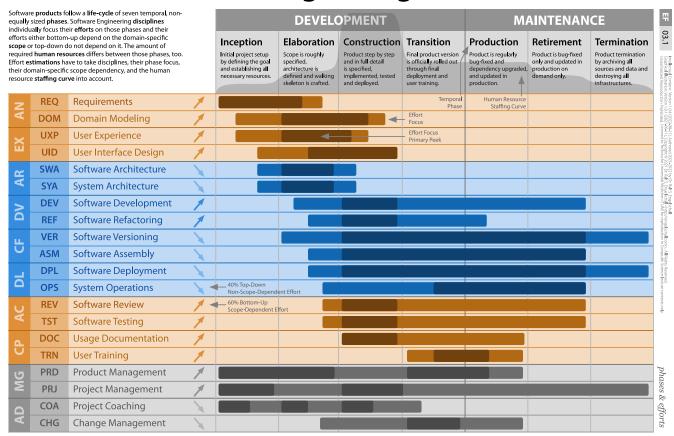
Questions

What focus has the Software Requirements Specification?



Software Engineering Efforts





Software products follow a **life-cycle** of seven temporal, non-equally sized **phases**. Software Engineering **disciplines** individually focus their **efforts** on those phases, and their efforts either bottom-up depend on the domain-specific scope, or their efforts top-down do not depend on it. The amount of required **human resources** differs between those phases, too.

Effort estimations have to take disciplines, their phase focus, their domain-specific scope dependency, and the human resource staffing curve into account.

Furthermore, the seven sequential phases especially do not conflict with agile process models: agile time **periods** (named "sprints" in Scrum) merely subdivide the individual phases.

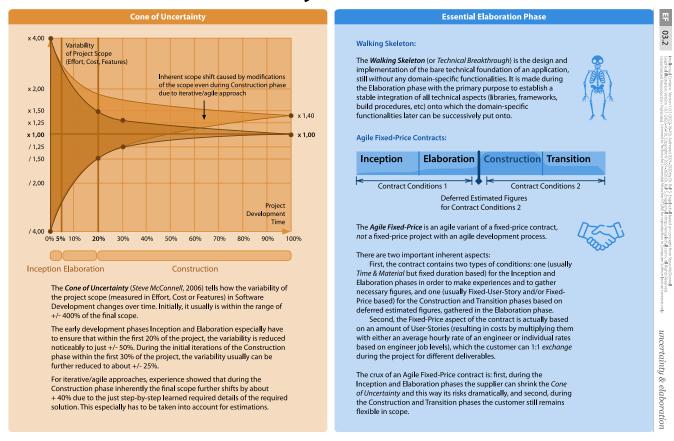
Questions

What is the Software Engineering Phase called, which has the greatest personnel requirements and in which primarily the functionalities are realized?



Uncertainty & Elaboration





The **Cone of Uncertainty** tells how the variability of the project scope (measured in Effort, Cost or Features) in Software Development changes over time. The early development phases Inception and Elaboration especially have to ensure that the variability is reduced noticeably.

For iterative/agile approaches, experience showed that during the Construction phase, inherently the final scope further shifts due to the just step-by-step learned required details of the required solution.

The Elaboration phase is especially important for the creation of the **Walking Skeleton**, where all the technical integrations of libraries, frameworks, build procedures, etc., are done without already implementing any domain-specific functionalities.

Because of the **Cone of Uncertainty**, **Agile Fixed-Price** project contracts usually differentiate between the early phases Inception and Elaboration and the main phases Construction and Transition. The contract conditions of the latter usually depend on figures which seriously can only be estimated at the end of the Elaboration phase.

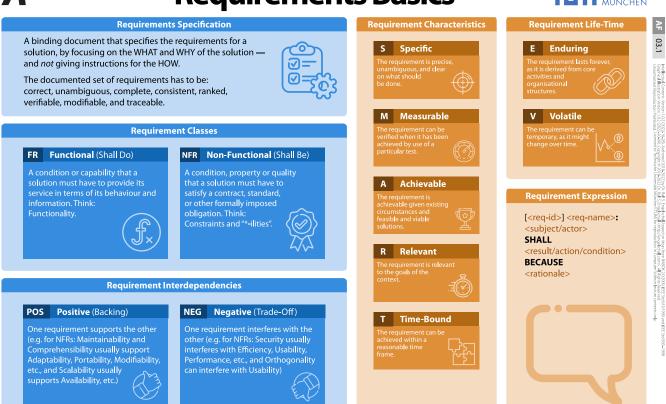
Questions

What is especially developed in the project phase "Elaboration"?



Requirements Basics





The **Requirements Specification** is a binding document in which primarily the WHAT and WHY of the solution is specified, however not the concrete technical HOW. The set of requirements must be correct, unambiguous, complete, consistent, prioritized, verifiable, changeable and traceable.

There are two types of requirements: **Functional Requirement** ("Shall Do", functionality) and **Non-Functional Requirements** ("Shall Be", Conditions, in English often expressed with words ending in "-ility"). The architect primarily takes care of the latter.

Requirements can also be reciprocally positive (backing) or negative (trade-off). The architect also primarily takes care of the latter.

Requirements should be "SMART": **Specific**, **Measurable**, **Achieveable**, **Relevant** and **Time-Bound**.

In addition, requirements are either **Enduring** (fixed) or **Volatile** (unstable). The architect should pay attention to the latter.

Questions

What kind of **requirements** should the architect primarily keep in mind and should be explicitly addressed by him in the solution finding?



Non-Functional Requirements











There are potentially many Non-Functional Requirements. For any solution, one must therefore first determine the actual quantity of such Requirements. This quantity must be minimized by the Architect!

For every contractually stipulated Requirement, one should take into account that it is clearly defined since there are great similarities between Requirements and the differences are sometimes very subtle.

A few of the Non-Functional Requirements that almost always have to be considered in practice are Maintainability, Usability, Security, Availability, Reliability, Performance, Responsiveness and Adaptability.

Questions

Name 3 in practice frequently considered Non-Functional Requirements!