

Requirements engineering

By
Kristian Sandahl
krs@ida.liu.se

Contents

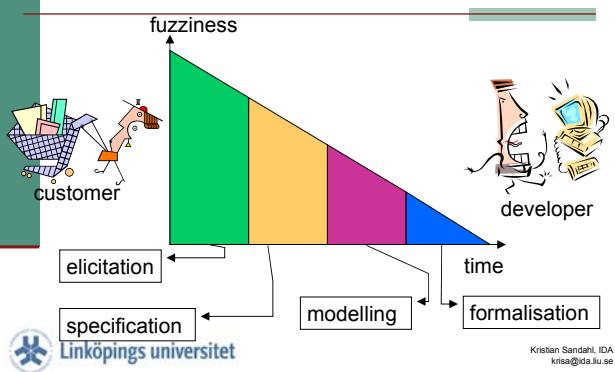
- The Requirements Engineering (meta-) process
- The Requirements specification
- Formal specifications
- Research issues



Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA
krs@ida.liu.se

Process



Elicitation

Purpose:

- Understand the true needs of the customer
- Trace future implementation to needs

Process:

- Interviews
- Observations
- Prototyping
- Invention

80% of telecommunication requirements come from standards



Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA
krs@ida.liu.se

Interviews

Process:

- Start
- Q & A
- Summary teach-back
- Thank you!
- What's next

Kinds:

- Structured
- Unstructured

Tips

- Be 2 interviewers – shift roles
- Plan the interview
- Don't stick to the plan – use feelings
- Let the customer talk
- Prepare ice-breakers
- Probe thinking



Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA
knsa@ida.liu.se

Requirements specification

- Requirements are specified in natural, but domain-specific language
- Should not consider design solutions
- A contract between customer and developer
- Starting point for the vendor's:
 - developers
 - testers
 - tech writers
 - managers
 - marketing people
 - software acquisition people



Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA
knsa@ida.liu.se

Requirements specification

Requirements are:

- Numbered
 - Inspected
 - Prioritised
 - Unambiguous
 - Testable
 - Complete
 - Consistent
- Traceable
 - Feasible
 - Modifiable
 - Useful for:
 - operation
 - maintenance
 - customer
 - developer
 -



Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA
knsa@ida.liu.se

Requirements specification

- Table of contents
- 1 Introduction
 - 1.1 Purpose
 - 1.2 Scope
 - 1.3 Definitions, acronyms and abbreviations
 - 1.4 References
 - 1.5 Overview
 - 2 Overall description
 - 2.1 Product perspective
 - 2.2 Product functions
 - 2.3 User characteristics
 - 2.4 General constraints
 - 2.5 Assumptions and dependencies
 - 2.6 Lower ambition levels
 - 3 Specific requirements
 - 4 Supporting information
 - 4.1 Index
 - 4.2 Appendices



Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA
knsa@ida.liu.se

3 Specific requirements

- 3.1 Interface requirements
 - 3.1.1 User interfaces
 - 3.1.2 Hardware interfaces
 - 3.1.3 Software interfaces
 - 3.1.4 Communication interfaces

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 3.2 Functional requirements | 3.2 Classes |
| 3.2.1 Information flows | 3.2.1 Class1 |
| 3.2.2 Process description | 3.2.1.1 Attributes |
| 3.2.3 Data construct specification | 3.2.1.2 Functions |
| 3.2.4 Data dictionary | |
| | 3.2.n Class n |
| | 3.2.n.1 Attributes |
| | 3.2.n.2 Functions |



Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA
knsa@ida.liu.se

Modelling

- Representation in semi-formal notation
- Often diagrammatic representation
- Examples:
 - Object-orientation, use-cases, state-machines
 - Activity diagrams
 - Data flow diagrams
 - Entity-relationship models

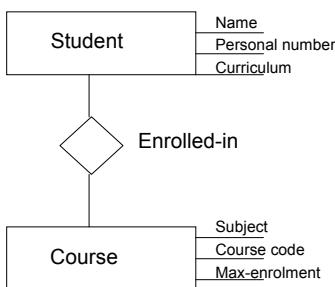
Requires a paradigm shift to give full advantage



Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA
knsa@ida.liu.se

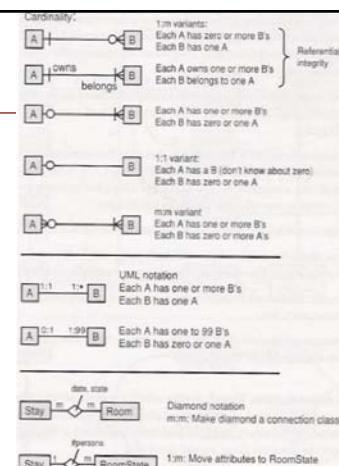
Data model: ER-diagram



Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA
knsa@ida.liu.se

Different formats



Linköpings universitet

Formalisation

- Represents requirements in a mathematical notation
- Interpretation with logic gives possibilities:
 - Consistency check
 - Proof of correctness
 - System simulation
 - Unambiguity
- Examples: Z, VDM, NP-tool,...

Requires
thorough
education



Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA

knsa@ida.liu.se

Z example

```
ST = Key → VAL
INIT ──────────
| st' : ST
|
| st' = {}
|
INSERT ──────────
| st, st' : ST
| k : KEY
| v : VAL
|
| k ∉ dom(st) ∧
| st' = st ∪ {k → v}
|
LOOKUP ──────────
| st, st' : ST
| k : KEY
| v : VAL
|
| k ∈ dom(st) ∧
| v' = st(k) ∧
| st' = st
|
DELETE ──────────
| st, st' : ST
| k : KEY
|
| k ∈ dom(st) ∧
| st' = {k} ∪ st
```

IDA
ida.liu.se



Linköpings universitet

Non-Functional Requirements

- NFR bears on the behaviour and quality of the forthcoming soft-ware
- Case study results:
 - there seems to be a common understanding about what a NFR is even though more precise wording is needed
 - it is hard to discover NFRs
 - it is hard to express NFRs
 - modern processes, such as RUP, are function-oriented so there is a risk NFR are not prioritised or remembered



Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA

knsa@ida.liu.se

Validation of requirements

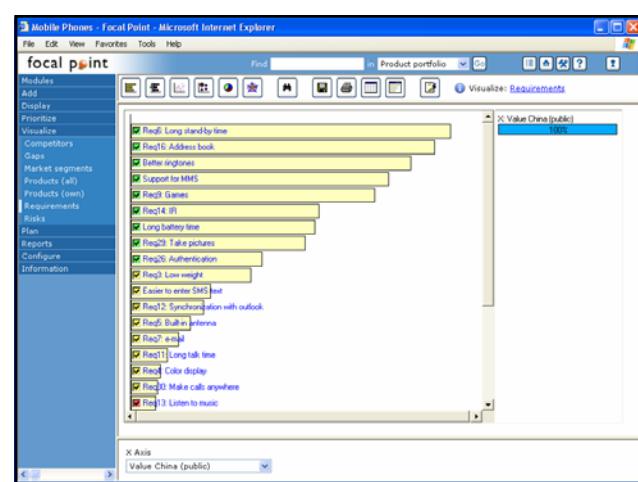
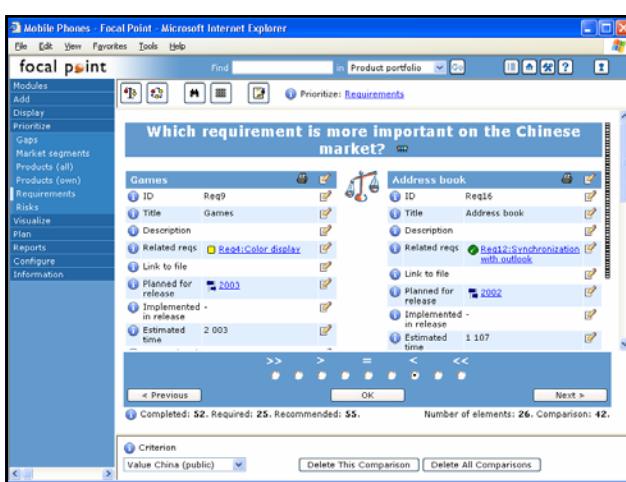
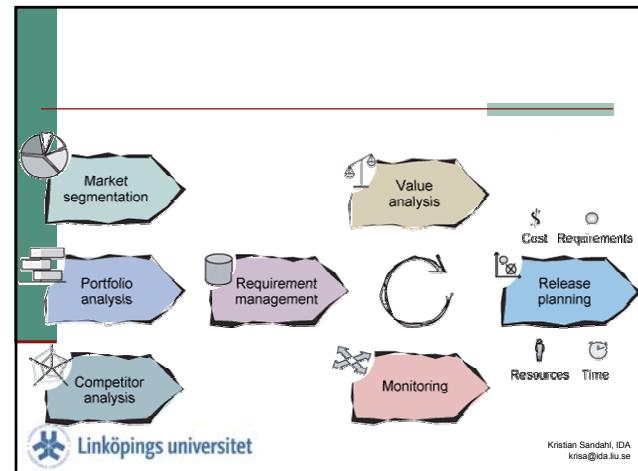
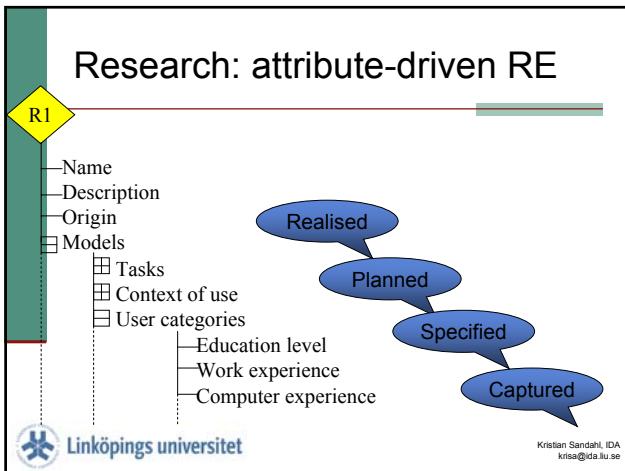
- Reading
- Cross-referencing
- Interviews
- Checklists
- Scenarios
- Proofs
- Prototyping

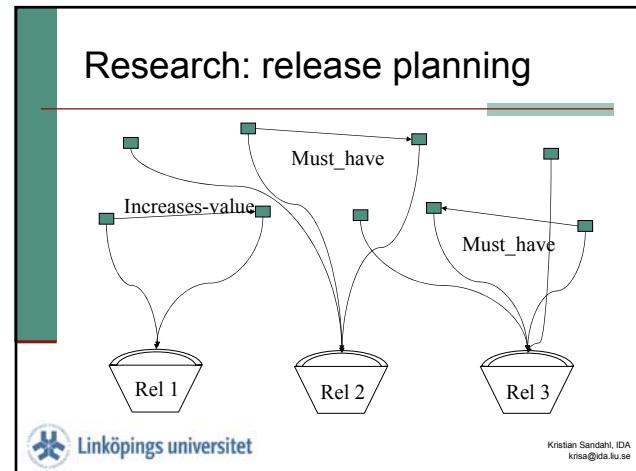
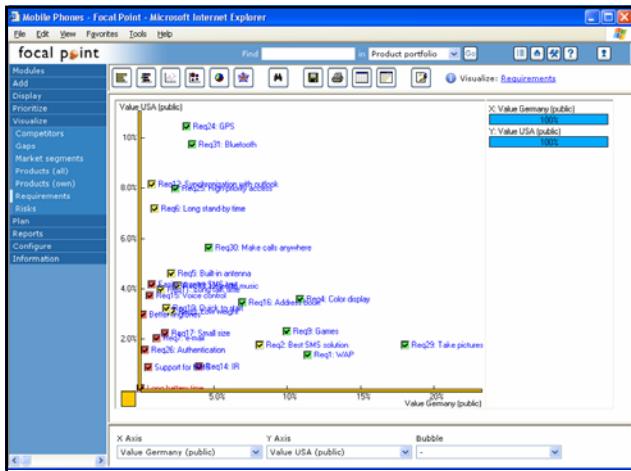


Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA

knsa@ida.liu.se





SIREN
Swedish Requirements Engineering Research Network

SIREN-noder (nodansvarig):

- [SERG](#), Lunds Universitet (Dr [Björn Regnell](#))
- [SERL](#), Blekinge Tekniska Högskola (Dr Mikael Svahnberg)
- [PELAB](#), Linköpings Universitet, (Prof. [Kristian Sandahl](#))
- [ISEE](#), Högskolan i Skövde, (Dr [Anne Persson](#))
- [ICS](#), Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan, (Dr [Patrik Forsgren](#))
- [SEG](#), Umeå Universitet, (Dr [Jürgen Börstler](#))

<http://serg.telecom.lth.se/research/SIREN/>

Linköpings universitet

Kristian Sandahl, IDA
knsa@ida.liu.se