



# Programvarukonstruktion

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<http://www.cs.umu.se/kurser/TDBB12/>



# Course Organisation

- ◆ Lecture part
  - Traditional lectures
  - Guest lectures
  - Group exercises
  - Assignments (3)
  - Written examination ("tenta")
- ◆ Project part
  - Teamwork
    - GUI design
    - Prototype development
  - Team meetings
  - Oral presentation of results
  - Written reports
- ◆ Examination: Assignments + "Tenta" + Project



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## Contents

- ⇒ Introduction
- ⇒ Requirements Engineering
- ⇒ UI Design
- ⇒ Project Management
- ⇒ Software Design
- ⇒ Detailed Design and Coding
- ⇒ Quality Assurance

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## ⇒ Introduction

- ⇒ What is Software Engineering
- ⇒ History of Software Engineering
- ⇒ Software Development Processes
- ⇒ Software Quality
- ⇒ Approaches to Improve Quality

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## Software Problems

- ◆ Software becomes more and more complex
- ◆ Software permeates our daily life
- ◆ Software failures may harm our lives
- ◆ Software does not meet expectations
- ◆ Software projects exceed budgets and schedules
- ◆ ...

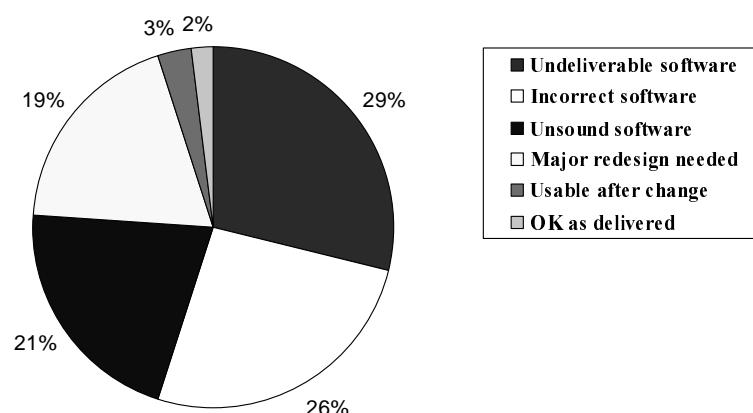
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## The Software Crisis is not Over



Study from ...

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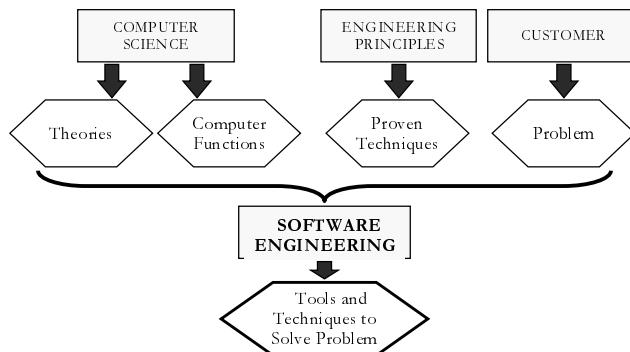
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## What is Software Engineering?

"The establishment and use of sound engineering principles in order to obtain economically software that is reliable and works efficiently on real machines."

Definition proposed by Fritz Bauer at the NATO conference '68 in Garmisch [NRB 76]



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## But ...

"... we all tell each other and ourselves that software engineering techniques should be improved considerably, because there is a crisis. But there are a few boundary conditions which apparently have to be satisfied. I will list them for you:

1. We may not change our thinking habits.
2. We may not change our programming tools.
3. We may not change our hardware.
4. We may not change our tasks.
5. We may not change our organizational set-up in which the work has to be done.

Now under these five immutable boundary conditions, we have to try to improve matters. This is utterly ridiculous. ..."

Comment by Edsger Dijkstra at the NATO conference '69 in Garmisch [BuRa 70]

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## A Little History (1)

1940 Construction of the first computers  
Hardware dominates

1950 Single batch programs

1960 More complex programs  
Software crisis  
More application domains  
Not enough educated programmers  
No common programming languages  
No special project management  
No quality assurance  
Quality = efficiency  
...

1968 NATO conference in Garmisch gives “birth” to Software Engineering  
Engineering approach to software production  
Systematic production of large software systems of high quality

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## A Little History (2)

1970 Life-cycle models  
Structured programming and design  
General purpose languages  
Requirements definition languages  
Modularization

1980 Many new methods, languages, and tools  
First programming environments  
Project management support

1985 Object-orientation, GUIs  
Reuse, Re-engineering, ...  
Process modeling  
Distributed computing

1990 OOA/D, Software architecture, CORBA  
Patterns, Internet computing, CMM, PSP

1995 Java, UML  
T-PSP, ...

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## Elements of Software Engineering

- ◆ Methods  
Technical “how tos” to support software development tasks
  - ◆ Languages  
Notations to support methods
  - ◆ Tools  
(Semi-) automated support for (the usage of) methods and languages
  - ◆ Processes  
Coordination and management of software development tasks supported by methods, languages, and tools
- Economically produce quality software

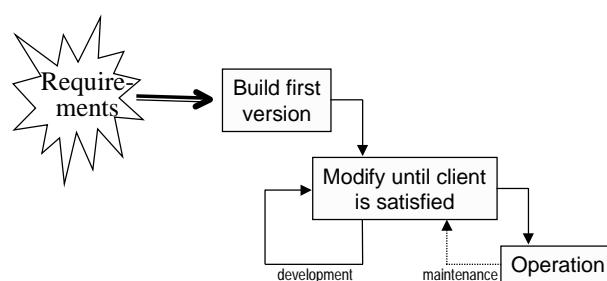
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## Software Development Processes

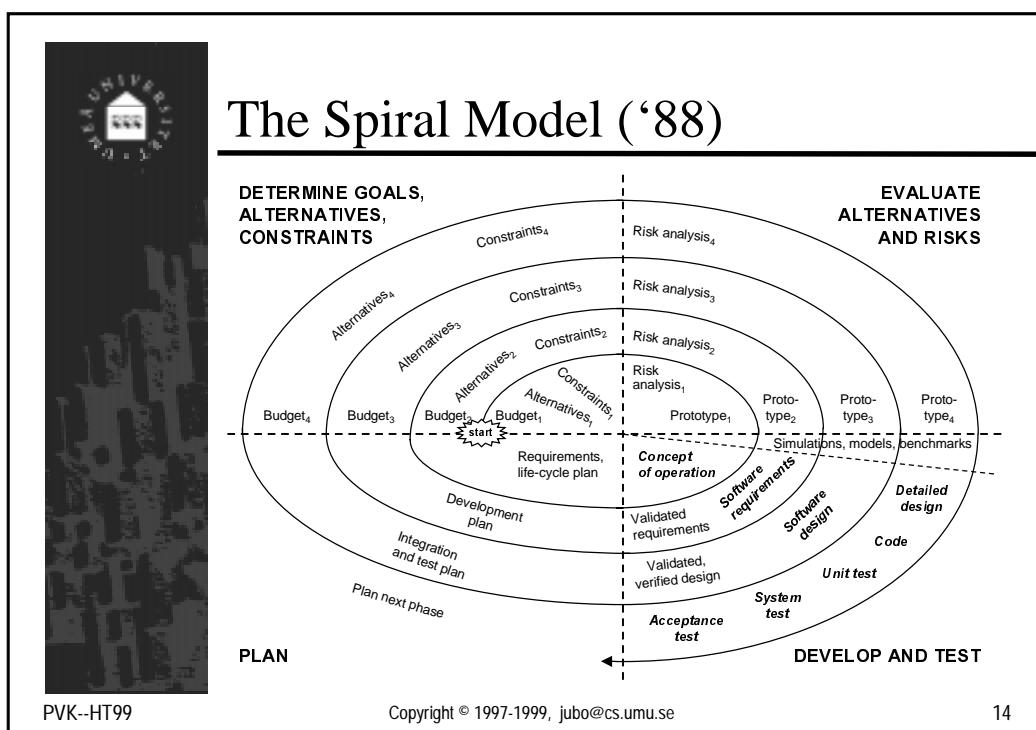
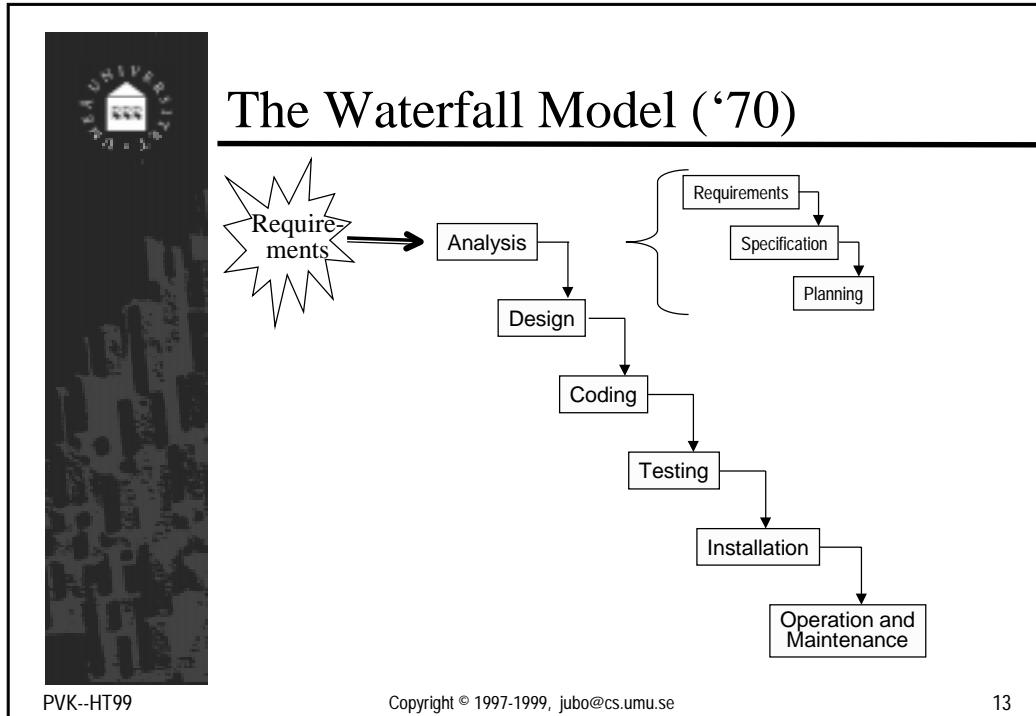


- Does this scale up?

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## Waterfall vs. Spiral Model

	Waterfall Model	Spiral Model
<b>Model Complexity</b>	Simple, linear sequence of phases	Complex, iterative model; many integrated tasks
<b>Management</b>	Document driven	Risk driven
<b>Quality Control</b>	Natural milestone after each phase	Continuous evaluation, integrated into the model
<b>Customer interaction</b>	No	Prototypes are built and evaluated by customers in every iteration
<b>Risk</b>	High (late feedback)	Low (risk analysis is integrated in the model)
<b>Usability</b>	Small and/or low risk projects	Large projects

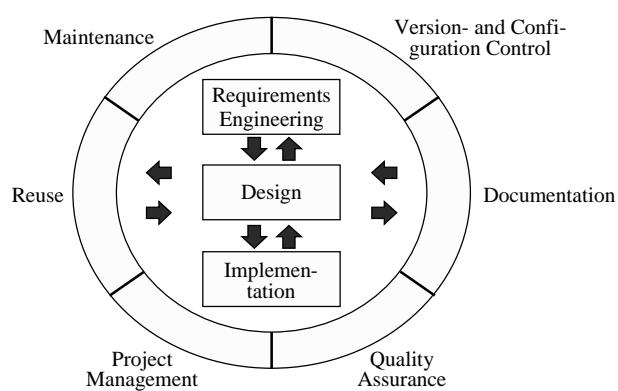
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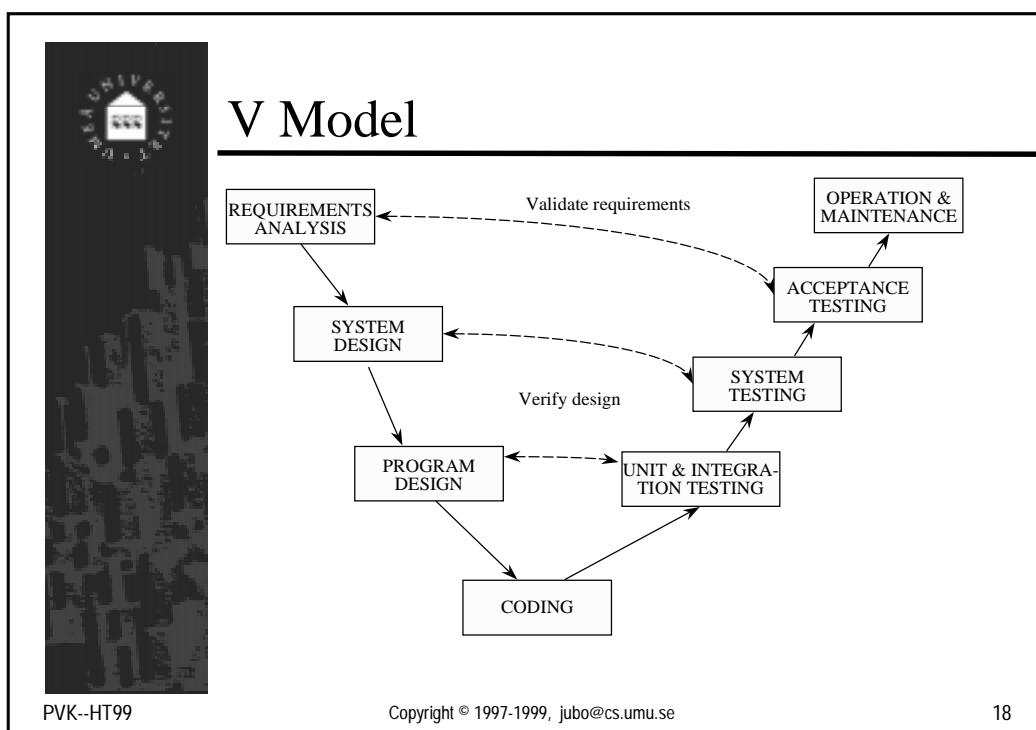
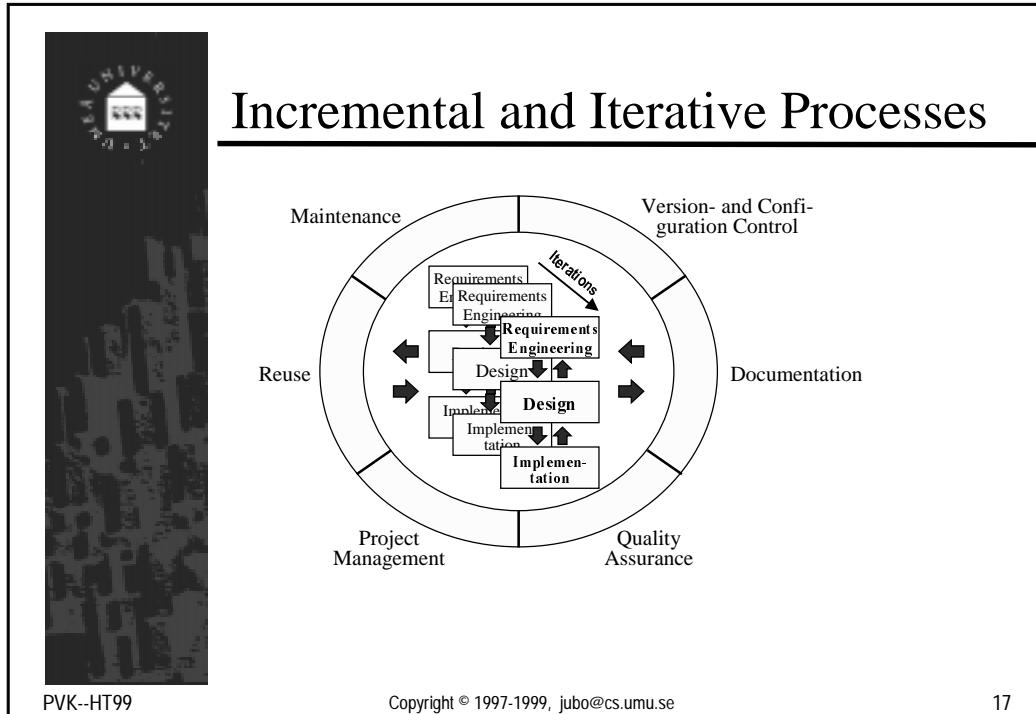
## A Generic Process

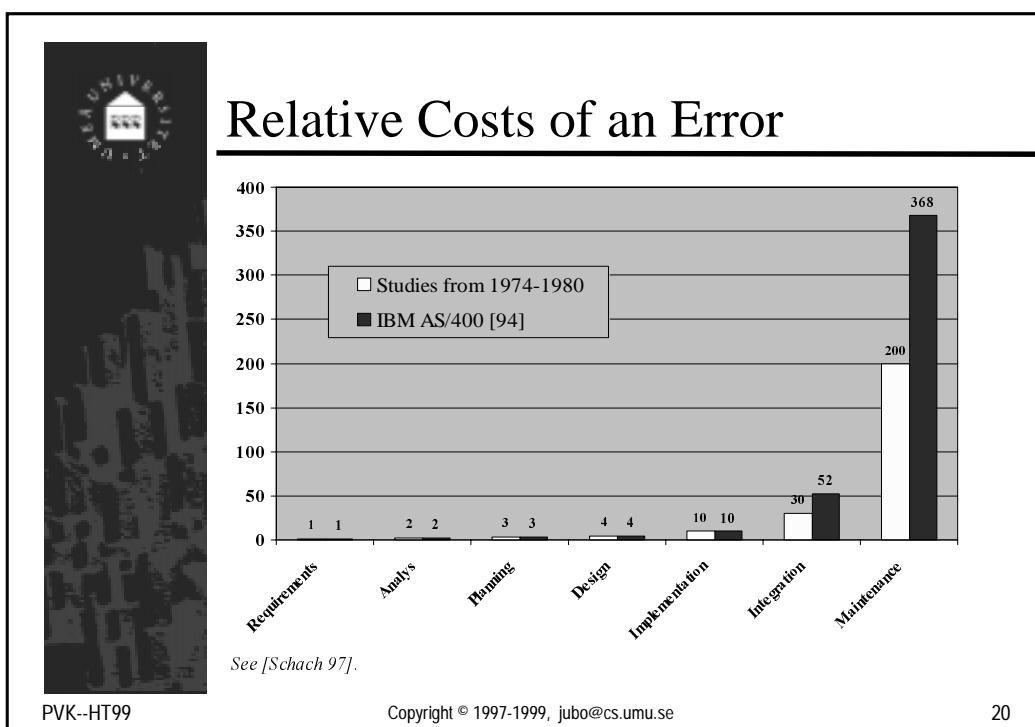
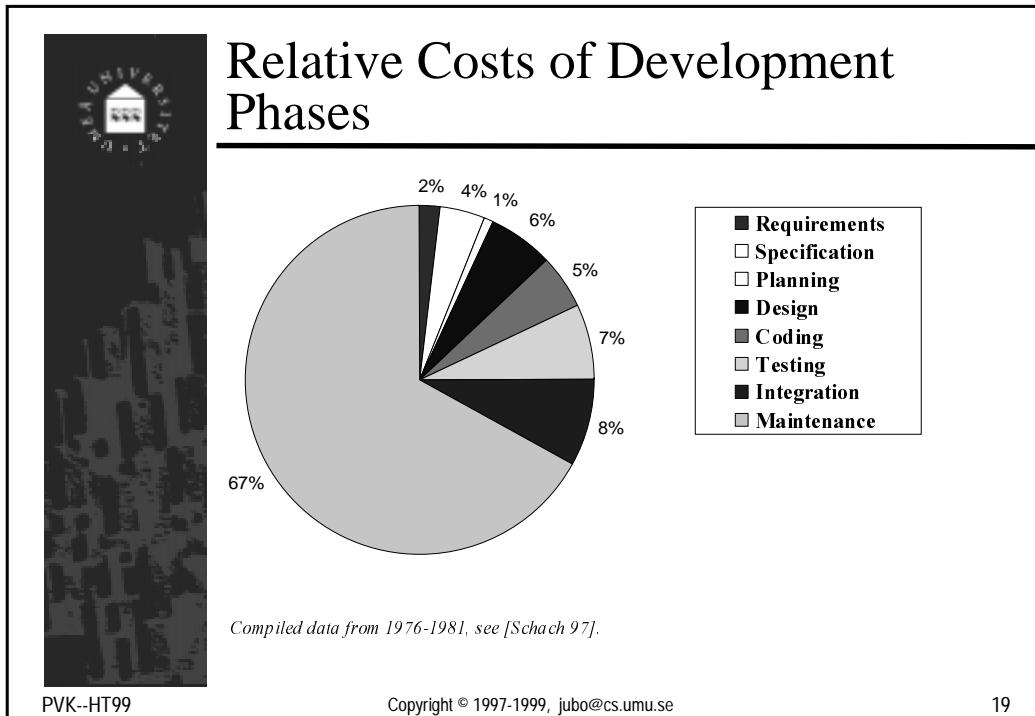


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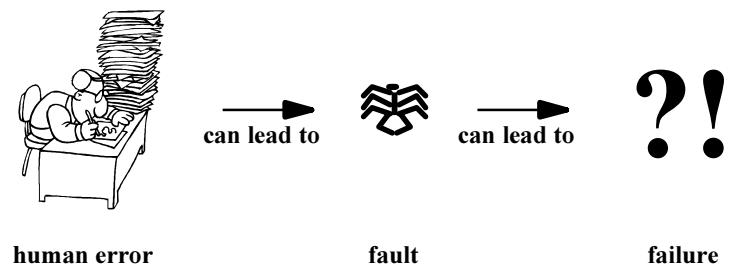
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## Fault vs Failure

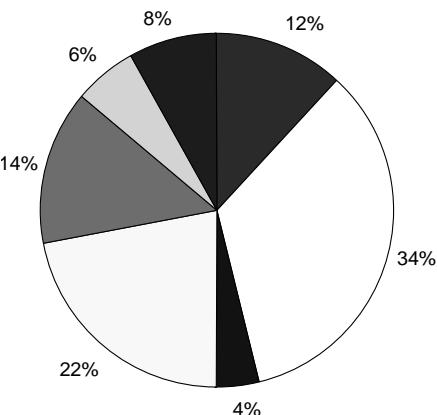


human error → fault → failure

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## Causes of Errors



Cause Category	Percentage
Felaktiga eller misstolkade krav	34%
Felaktiga eller misstolkade specifikationer	14%
Designfel som involvera flera komponenter	12%
Design- eller kodningsfel i en komponent	8%
Stavningsfel och dylikt	6%
Fel rättning	4%
Andra ursaker	2%

Study from 1978, see [GoRu 95].

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## ⇒Introduction

- ⇒ What is Software Engineering ✓
- ⇒ History of Software Engineering ✓
- ⇒ Software Development Processes ✓
- ⇒ **Software Quality**
- ⇒ **Approaches to Improve Quality**

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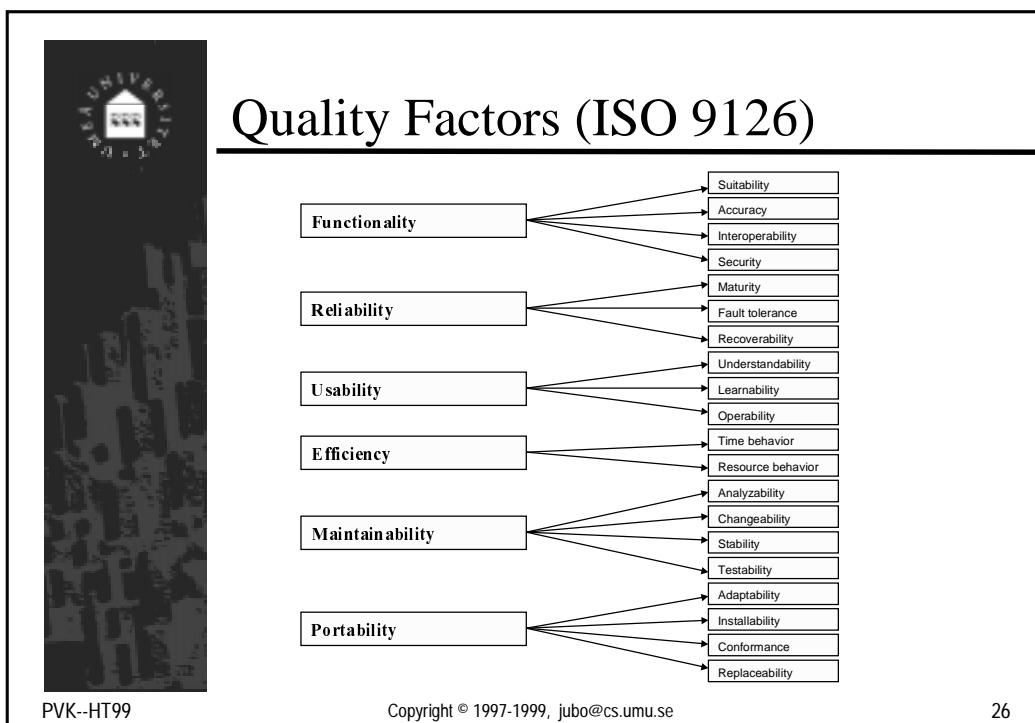
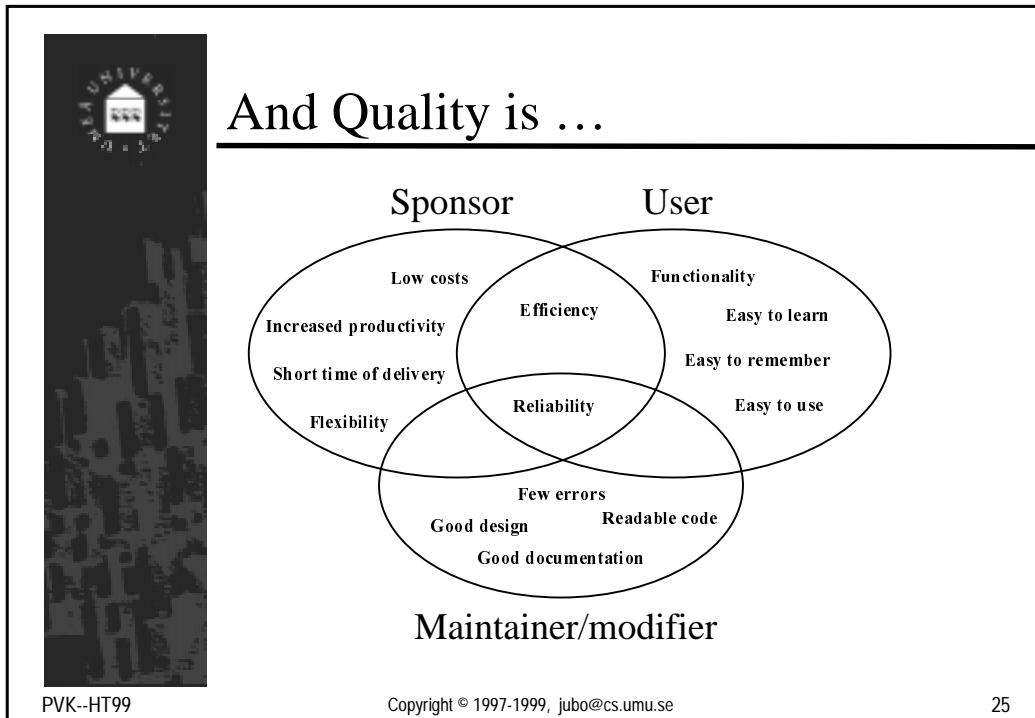
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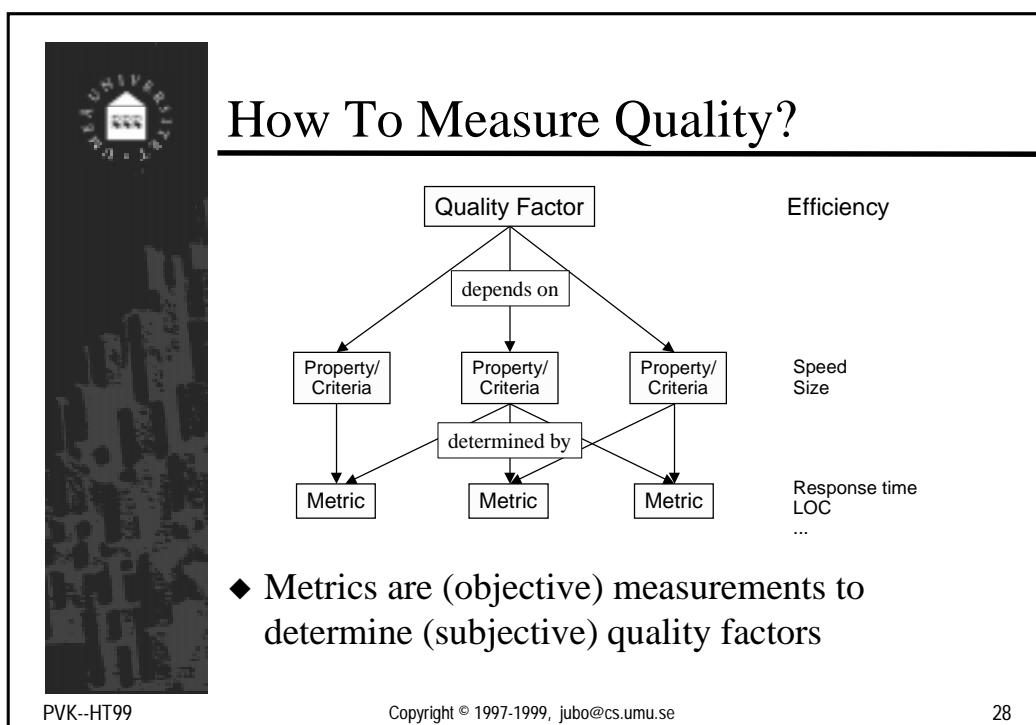
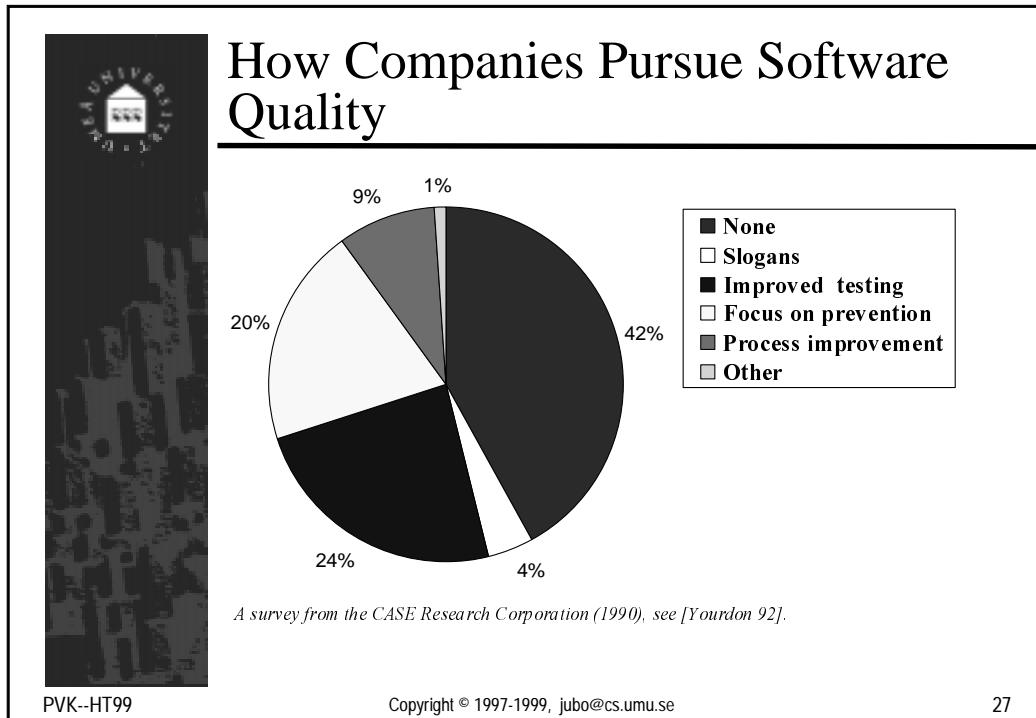
## Quality is ...

- ◆ ... I know it when I see it
- ◆ ... it suits the client/user
- ◆ ... it conforms to the specification
- ◆ ... it has some inherent quality
- ◆ ... it depends on the price

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## Some Example Metrics

- ◆ To measure efficiency
  - Time behaviour
    - Transactions per second
    - Response time
    - Screen refresh time
  - Resource behaviour
    - KBytes of executables
    - LOC
    - Number of processors
- ◆ To measure usability
  - Training time
  - Number of help frames
- ◆ To measure reliability
  - MTTF (Mean Time To Failure)
  - Availability
- ◆ To measure robustness
  - Time to restart after a failure
  - Probability of data corruption on failure
- ◆ To measure portability
  - Number of target systems
  - Percentage of target dependent statements

► Measurement is necessary

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## Purpose of Measurement

- ◆ Analysis: Determine current quality
- ◆ Prediction: Predict future quality
- ◆ Not only code can be measured, but also
  - Products
    - Documentation
    - Design
  - Processes
    - Analysis phase
    - Test phase
  - Resources
    - Personnel
    - Budget

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## Approaches to Improve Quality

- ◆ CMM
- ◆ PSP
- ◆ Inspections
- ◆ Standards (ISO9000, ...)
- ◆ Cleanroom engineering
- ◆ Statistical quality control
- ◆ ...

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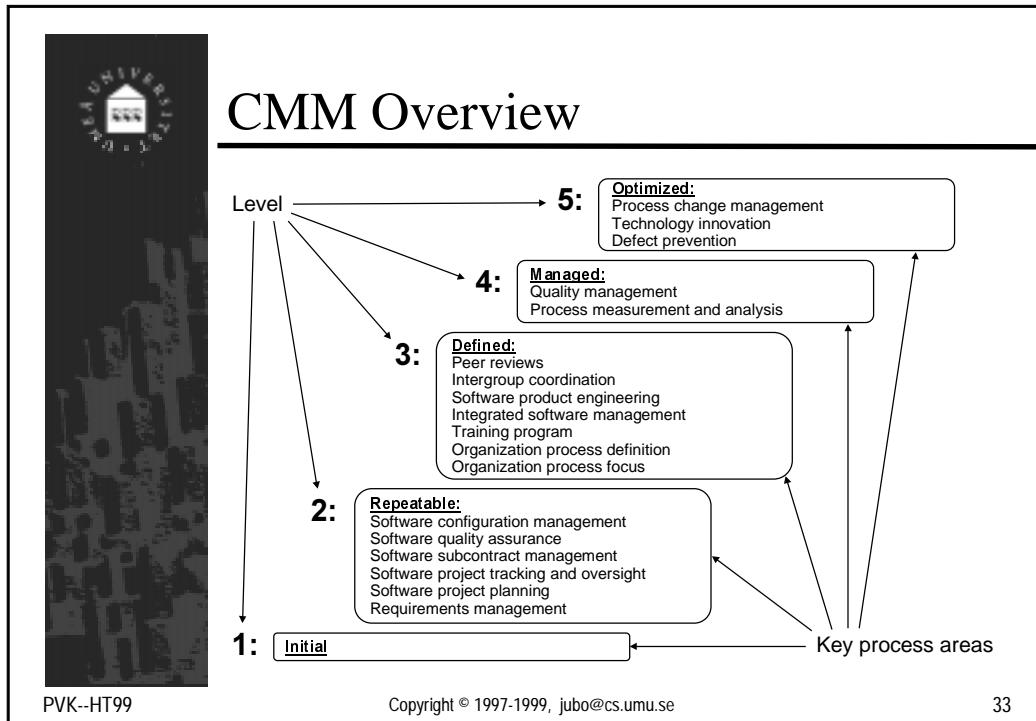
## CMM

- ◆ Capability Maturity Model
- ◆ Developed by SEI 1986 (for the DoD)
- ◆ Five maturity levels
  - Initial (ad-hoc process)
  - Repeatable (repeatable process)
  - Defined (well-defined, documented process)
  - Managed (predictable process)
  - Optimised (continuous process improvements)
- The DoD requires level 3 from all contractors

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**CMM Results**

The table provides a summary of development metrics across five CMM levels:

CMM level	Development time	Person months	Faults detected during dev.	Faults delivered and installed	Total dev. costs in US\$
1	29,8	593,5	1.348	61	5.440.000
2	18,5	143,0	328	12	1.311.000
3	15,2	79,5	182	7	728.000
4	12,5	42,8	97	5	392.000
5	9,0	16,0	37	1	146.000

*Model predictions for the development of a 200.000 LOC data processing product (1993), see [Schach 97].*

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## PSP

- ◆ A process for individual developers
  - Well-defined process steps (*scripts*)
  - Forms
  - Instruction for filling in the forms
  - Standards
- ◆ Framework for analysis
- ◆ Tool for individual process improvements
  - ◊ Developers find more errors
  - ◊ Developers improve their estimations
  - ◊ Developers improve productivity
- Improvements at “no” costs

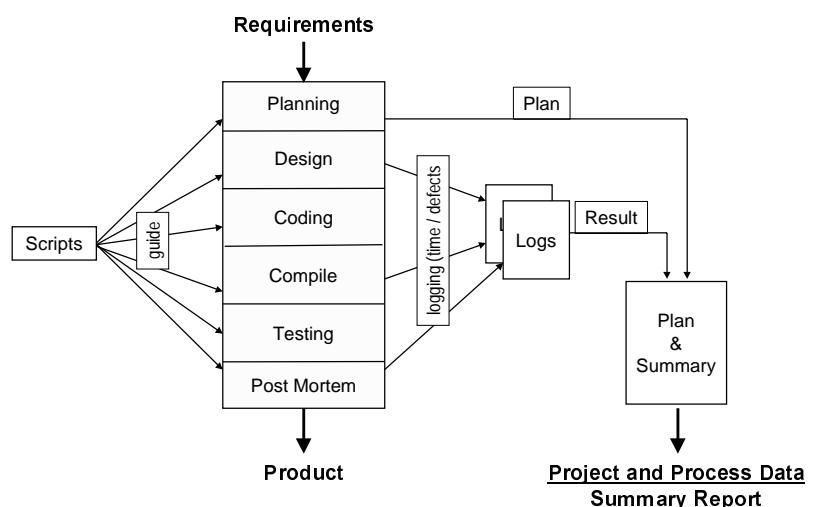
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## PSP Overview



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## Exempel på ett script

Fas	Syfte	Handledning för PSP0 planering
	Inträdeskrav	Problembeskrivning Projektplan sammanfattningsformuläret Tidsloggning
1	Definiera programkrav	Framställa eller skaffa ett kravdokument för programmet Säkerställa att kravdokumentet är klar och motsägelsefri Lösa alla frågor angående kravdokumentet
2	Uppskatta resurser	Göra den bästa möjliga uppskattningen av tiden som krävs för att utveckla programmet
	Uträdesskrav	Dokumenterade krav Fullständig projektplan sammanfattningsformulär med tidsuppskattning för utvecklingstid Fullständiga tidsloggar

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## Tidslog

Namn: jubo  
Datum: 990428  
Program: Test\_1

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## Felog

Namn: jubo  
 Datum: 990428  
 Program: Test\_1

Datum	Nummer	Feltyp	Införd	Borttagit	Fix-tid (min)	Fixat fel
990428	25	20	kodning	komplifiering	1	

Beskrivning: Glömd kruleparantes.

Datum	Nummer	Feltyp	Införd	Borttagit	Fix-tid (min)	Fixat fel
990428	26	20	komplifiering	komplifiering	1	25

Beskrivning: Knappade in två kruleparantes vid fejlrättning.

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## Projektplan och sammanfattning

- ◆ Jämför planen med uppnådda resultat
  - Tid per fas
  - Kodstorlek
  - Kvalitet
    - Produkt
    - Process
  - Produktivitet
  - Effektivitet
- ◆ Statistik
- ◆

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## PSP Results

- ◆ Many published case studies
  - SEI
  - DoD mm (fig. 7!)
  - Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
  - Hawaii University
  - Lund universitet (Claes Wohlin)
  - OOPS! Often very few students (not Hawaii/Lund)
- ◆ Industry relevant (mainly USA and Japan)
- ◆ Results are generally positive
  - Improved predictions
    - Development time
    - Program size
    - Quality of results
  - Improved quality
  - Improves development processes

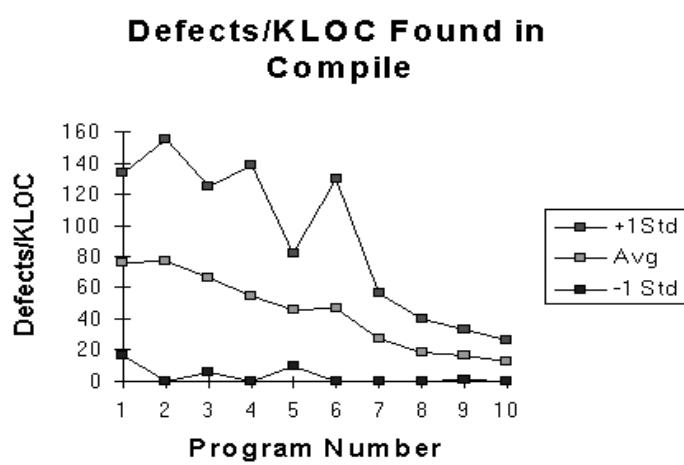
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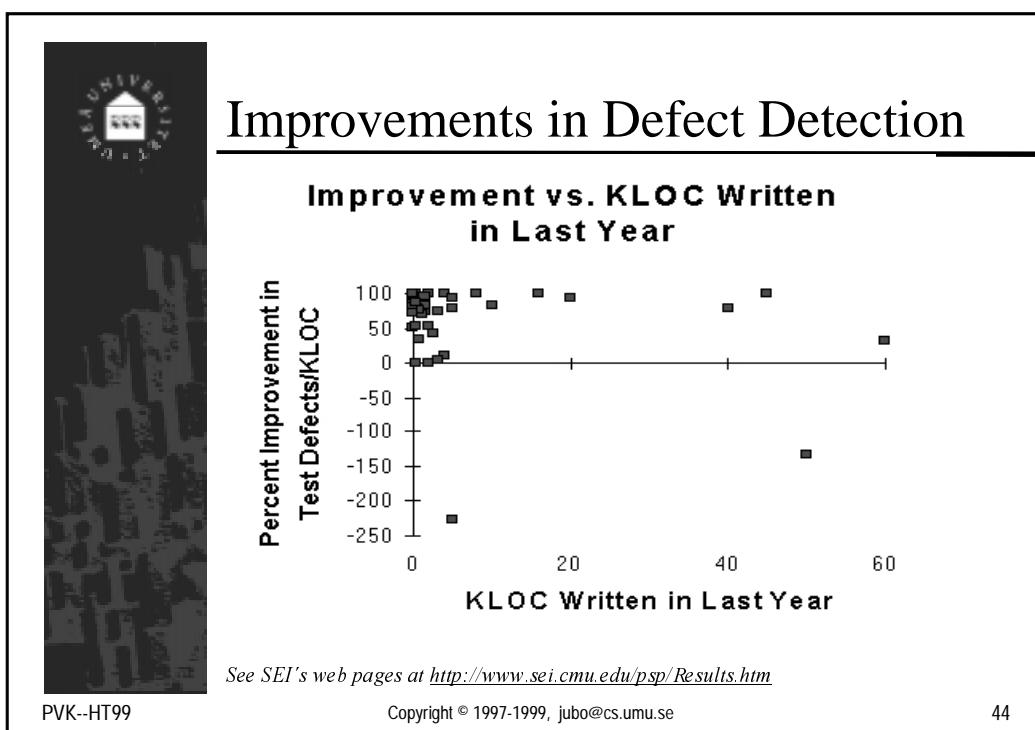
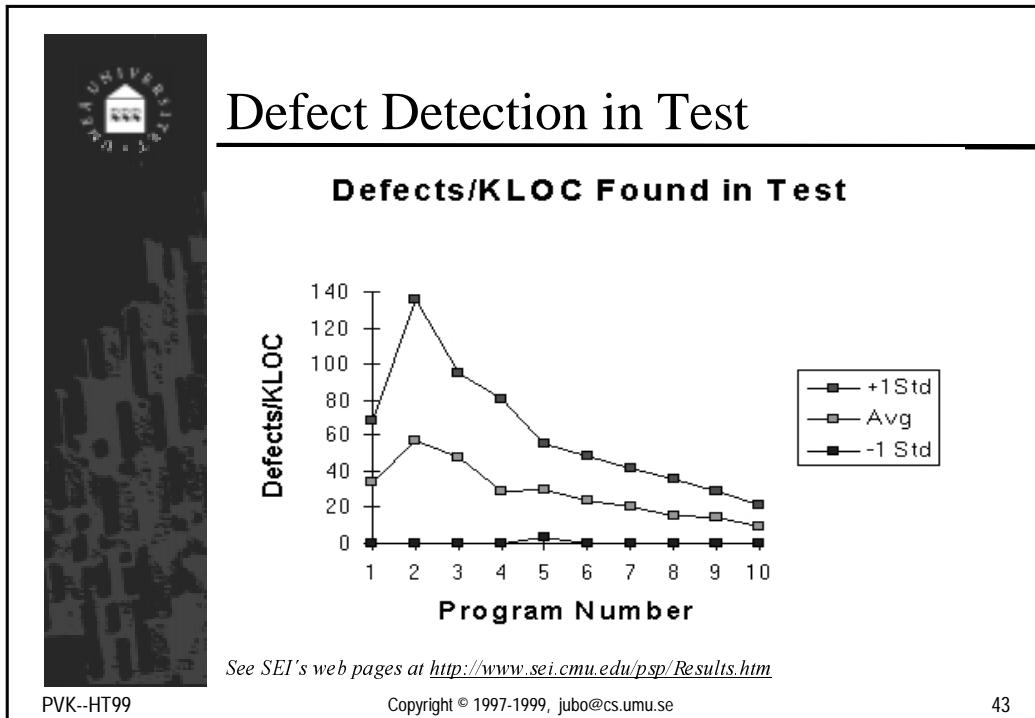
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## Defect Detection in Compile

See SEI's web pages at <http://www.sei.cmu.edu/psp/Results.htm>

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## Problem med PSP

- ◆ Stel process
  - Måste allt vara klart innan första compile?
  - Måste alla fel loggas?
  - Hur hanteras iterativ utveckling/prototyping?
- ◆ Utvecklare slutar använda PSP
  - Uppföljning?
  - Koppling till CMM?
- ◆ Datainsamling problematisk
  - Manuell datainsamling är opålitlig ([Hawaii studie](#))
  - Automatisk datainsamling innebär etiska risker
- ◆ Inga verktyg som stödjer PSP fullt ut

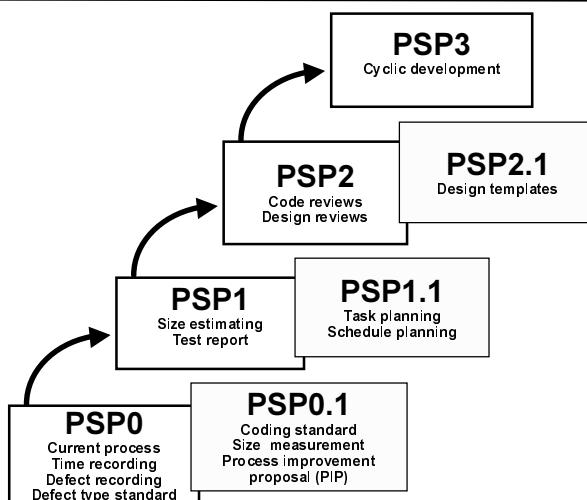
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## PSP Levels



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## PSP0 Documents

- ◆ PSP0 Process Script
- ◆ PSP0 Planning Script
- ◆ PSP0 Development Script
- ◆ PSP0 Post-mortem Script
- ◆ PSP0 Project Plan Summary and Instructions
- ◆ Time Recording Log and Instructions
- ◆ Defect Recording Log and Instructions
- ◆ Defect Type Standard

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## PSP3 Documents

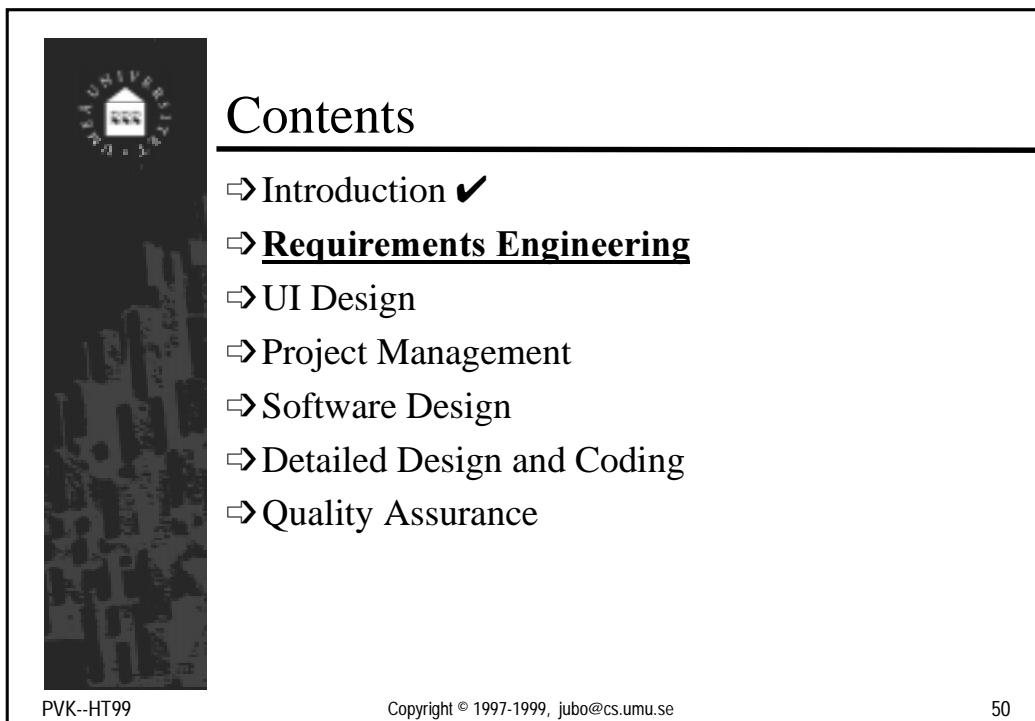
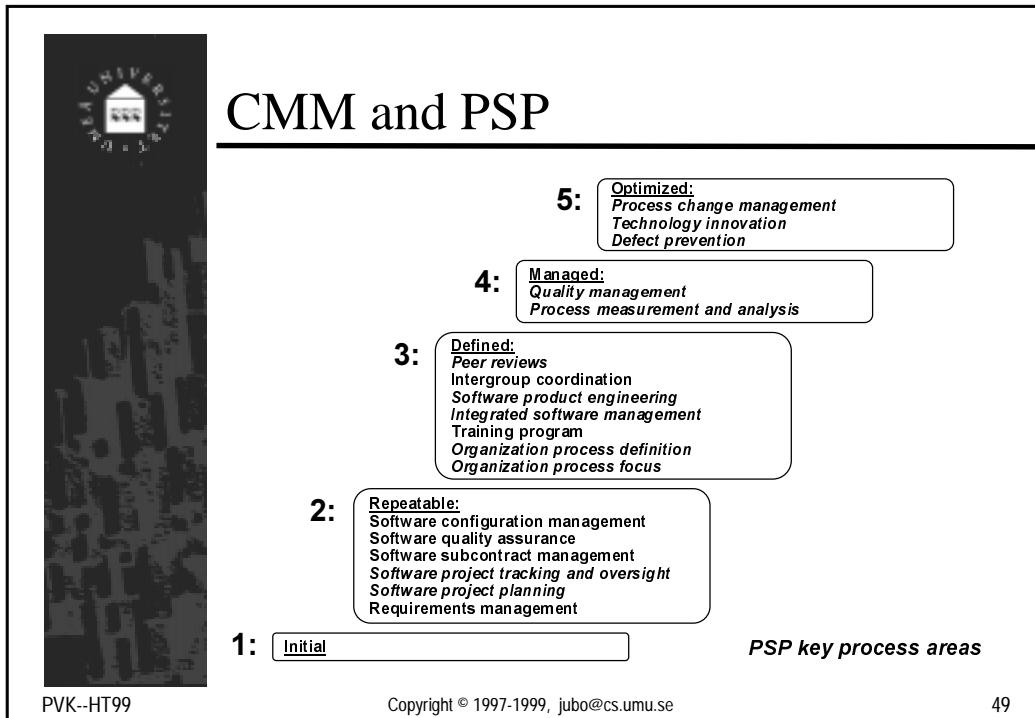
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ PSP3 Process Script</li> <li>◆ PSP3 Planning Script</li> <li>◆ PSP3 High-level Design Script</li> <li>◆ PSP3 High-level Design Review Script</li> <li>◆ PSP3 Development Script</li> <li>◆ PSP3 Post-mortem Script</li> <li>◆ PSP3 Project Plan Summary and Instructions</li> <li>◆ Operational Scenario T&amp;I<sup>1</sup></li> <li>◆ Functional Specification T&amp;I</li> <li>◆ State Specification T&amp;I</li> <li>◆ Logic Specification T&amp;I</li> <li>◆ PSP3 Design Review Checklist</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Code Review Checklist</li> <li>◆ Task Planning T&amp;I</li> <li>◆ Schedule Planning T&amp;I</li> <li>◆ PROBE<sup>2</sup> Estimating Script</li> <li>◆ Test Report T&amp;I</li> <li>◆ Size Estimating T&amp;I</li> <li>◆ PIP<sup>3</sup> and Instructions</li> <li>◆ Coding Standard</li> <li>◆ Time Recording Log &amp; I</li> <li>◆ Defect Recording Log &amp; I</li> <li>◆ Defect Type Standard</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

<sup>1</sup> T&I: Template and Instructions<sup>2</sup> PROBE: Proxy-based Estimation<sup>3</sup> PIP: Process Improvement Proposal

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## ⇒ Requirements Engineering

- ⇒ RE Activities
- ⇒ Requirements Documentation
- ⇒ Properties of Requirements
- ⇒ RE Methods and Notations
- ⇒ Examples

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## RE Activities

- ◆ Acquire and identify requirements
  - Study the system / organisation
  - Study available documents
  - Ask users / domain experts
    - Questionnaires
    - Interviews
- ◆ Analyse and evaluate requirements
  - Domain analysis
  - Prototyping
  - JAD / JAW
  - Scenario modelling
- ◆ Document requirements
- ◆ Review and validate requirements

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## Purpose of the Requirements Document

- ◆ Describe external system behavior
  - Functional requirements ← guide analysis
  - User interface
  - Acceptable responses to undesired events
- ◆ Describe constraints
  - Non-functional requirements ← guide design
  - Acceptance criteria
- Implementation independent reference
- Specifies the WHAT and not the HOW
- Part of the contract between customer and developer

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## Non-Functional Requirements

- ◆ Process requirements
- Delivery
- Implementation
- Standards
- ◆ External requirements
- Legislative
- Costs
- Inter-operability
- ◆ Product requirements
- Usability
- Efficiency
  - Performance
  - Space
- Reliability
- Portability

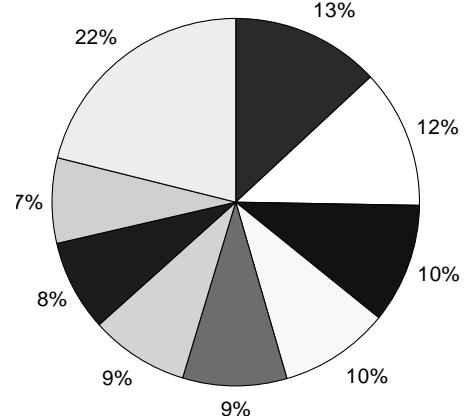
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## Why Do Projects Fail?



Reason	Percentage
Incomplete requirements	22%
Lack of user involvement	13%
Lack of resources	12%
Unrealistic expectations	10%
Lack of executive support	10%
Changing requirements and specifications	9%
Lack of planning	9%
System no longer needed	8%
Other causes	7%

Study by the Standish Group involving 350 companies from 1994-95, see [Pfleeger 98].

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## Documenting Requirements is Important

“Projects without clear goals will not achieve their goals clearly.”

Gilb’s principle of fuzzy targets

- ◆ Clear Goals are
  - Understandable by users and developers
  - Correct
  - Consistent
  - Complete
  - Realistic
  - Testable
  - Traceable
  - Prioritised

?

► Quality factors for requirements documents

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## Requirements Writing Style

- ◆ Do not use vague terms or verbs like “some,” “obviously,” “usually,” “often,” “it follows that,” ...
- ◆ Make sure that uncompleted lists are understood completely (e.g. “etc.”, “and so on,” “...,” ...)
- ◆ Make sure that ranges are clearly understood, e.g. what means “in the range of 1 to 100”
- ◆ Ask for clear definitions of terms like “always,” “never,” “almost,” etc.
- ◆ Use pictures and examples to aid in understanding
- ◆ Explain all of your terminology
- ◆ Use “shall,” “must,” “should,” consistently

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## User Requirements and Software Requirements Documents

Service Information		Service Information	
a	Abstract	a	Abstract
b	TOC	b	TOC
c	Document status and history	c	Document status and history
1	<b>Introduction</b>	1	<b>Introduction</b>
1.1	Purpose	1.1	Purpose
1.2	Scope	1.2	Scope
1.3	Glossary	1.3	Glossary
1.4	References	1.4	References
1.5	Overview	1.5	Overview
2	<b>General Description</b>	2	<b>General Description</b>
2.1	Product perspective	2.1	Relation to other projects
2.2	General capabilities	2.2	Function and purpose
2.3	General constraints	2.3	Environmental considerations
2.4	User characteristics	2.4	Relation to other systems
2.5	Operational environment	2.5	General constraints
2.6	Assumptions and dependencies	2.6	Model description
3	<b>Specific requirements</b>	3	<b>Specific requirements</b>
3.1	Capability requirements	3.1	Functional requirements
3.2	Constraint requirements	3.2	Non-functional requirements
4	<b>Requirements traceability matrix</b>		<i>Slightly adapted from ESA's Software Engineering Standards PSS-05-0 (see [ESA 96])</i>
	<i>Relates URD and SRD</i>		

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## ⇒ Requirements Engineering

- ⇒ RE Activities ✓
- ⇒ Requirements Documentation ✓
- ⇒ Properties of Requirements ✓
- ⇒ **RE Methods and Notations**
- ⇒ **Examples**



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## Classical Approaches to RE

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>◆ Problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Coping with size           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Structured approach</li> <li>→ Stepwise refinement</li> <li>→ Hierarchical organisation</li> </ul> </li> <li>❑ Coping with change           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Logic model</li> <li>→ Maintainable results</li> </ul> </li> <li>❑ Coping with documentation           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Simple notation</li> <li>→ Graphical elements</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <p>◆ Solutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ SA (75/76)           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Function-oriented</li> </ul> </li> <li>❑ ER (end 70s)           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Data-oriented</li> </ul> </li> <li>❑ SA/RT (85/87)           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Control-oriented</li> </ul> </li> <li>❑ Integrated approaches           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ SA/ER/RT (end 80s)</li> <li>→ OO/RT (early/mid 90s)</li> <li>→ ???</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|---|--|
- ⇒ Systematic approaches to requirements analysis and definition



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## Structured Analysis (SA)

- ◆ Developed 1975/76
  - DeMarco/Yourdon
  - Gane/Sarson
- ◆ System = Process transforming input into output
- ◆ Hierarchical, logical system model
  - Processes
  - Data flows
  - Data stores
  - Terminators
- ◆ Notation:
  - Data flow diagrams (DFDs)
  - Data dictionary (DD)
  - Process specifications (PSpecs)

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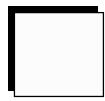
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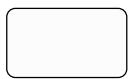
## Data Flow Diagrams

Gane/Sarson



**Terminator:**  
Source or destination of data/information.  
Outside the system boundaries.

data item(s) →

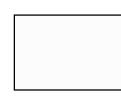


**Process:**  
Transforms input data flow(s)  
into output data flow(s).

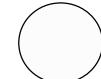


**Data store:**  
Data repository.

DeMarco/Yourdon



data item(s) →



—  
—

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## DFD Development

- ◆ Start with a *context diagram*
- ◆ Successively refine processes
- ◆ Describe all data in the data dictionary
- ◆ Describe all atomic processes by PSpecs
- ◆ Example: Order processing

**Context Diagram:**

```

graph LR
    Customer[Customer] -- "order, invoice" --> ProcessOrders((process orders))
    ProcessOrders -- "package data" --> Customer
    ProcessOrders -- "credit status" --> Customer
    ProcessOrders -- "customer data" --> Customer
  
```

**Refinement:**

refine →

```

graph LR
    Customer[Customer] -- "order" --> Verify((verify if order is valid))
    Verify -- "available packages" --> Assemble((assemble and invoice order))
    Verify -- "credit status" --> Customer
    Verify -- "customer data" --> Customer
    Assemble -- "invoice" --> Customer
  
```

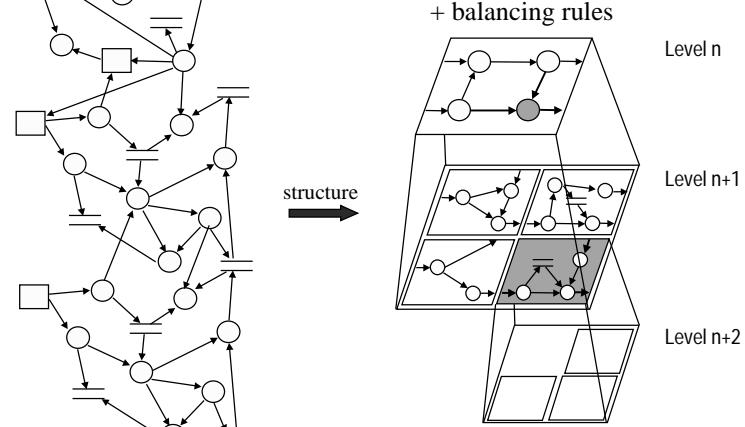
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## DFDs--Managing Complexity

**DFD hierarchy**  
+ numbering/naming rules  
+ balancing rules

**structure** →

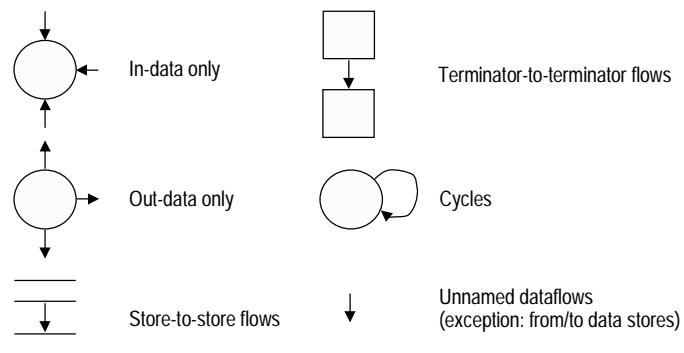


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## DFDs--“Forbidden” Structures

- ◆ The SA notation is not formally defined
- ◆ Rules are defined by experiences and tool features



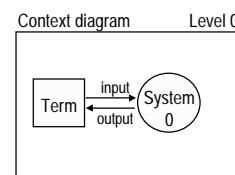
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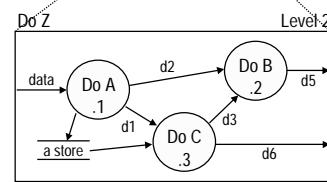
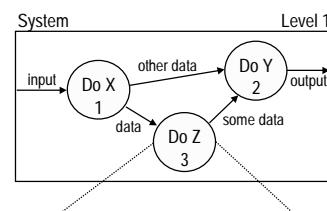


## DFD Naming and Balancing



All names must be unambiguous.

Numbering scheme helps to find processes in the hierarchy  
→ Do C: 3.3



In data dictionary: some data = d5 + d6  
(alternatively: some data = d5 | d6)

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## PSpecs and DD

- ◆ The format of PSpecs is not restricted
  - Free text
  - Pseudocode
- ◆ PSpecs must be defined for all atomic processes
- ◆ The format of the DD is semi-formal
- ◆ Example:

```

telephone number = [ local extension | outside number ] ← selection (or)
local extension = 2 + { number }3
outside number = 0 + [ local number | long distance number ] ← composition (and)
local number = prefix + access number
long distance number = (1) + area code + local number ← optional
prefix = [ 123 | 124 | 125 ]
access number = { number }4 ← repetition
number = * any number between 0 and 9 * ← a comment

```

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## SA--Summary

- ◆ Advantages
  - Simple notation
  - Supports hierarchical decomposition
  - Easy to understand
  - Good communication medium
  - Supports consistency checks
- ◆ Disadvantages
  - Not well defined
  - No common guidelines
  - Many dialects
  - Incomplete
    - Very poor data descriptions
    - No description of control flows

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## SA/RT

- ◆ Extension of SA to describe control flow
  - Activation/deactivation of processes
  - Modelling of events (signals)
  - States and state transitions
- ◆ Ward/Mellor (1985), Hatley/Pirbhai (1987)
- ◆ Additional notation (by Hatley/Pirbhai)
  - Control flow diagrams (CFDs) — Extended DFDs
  - Process activation tables (PATs)
  - State-transition diagrams (STDs)

Idea: Each DFD contains one central control process that consumes and produces all control flows.

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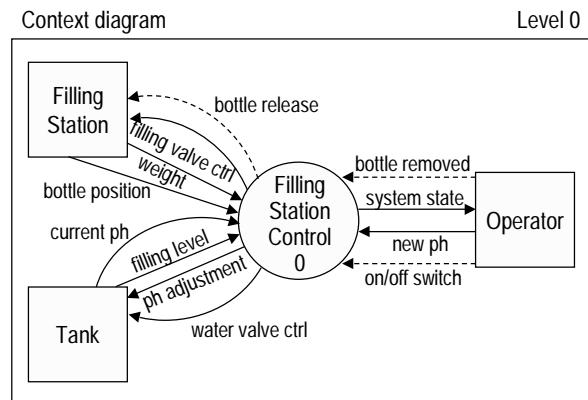
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## SA/RT--An Example

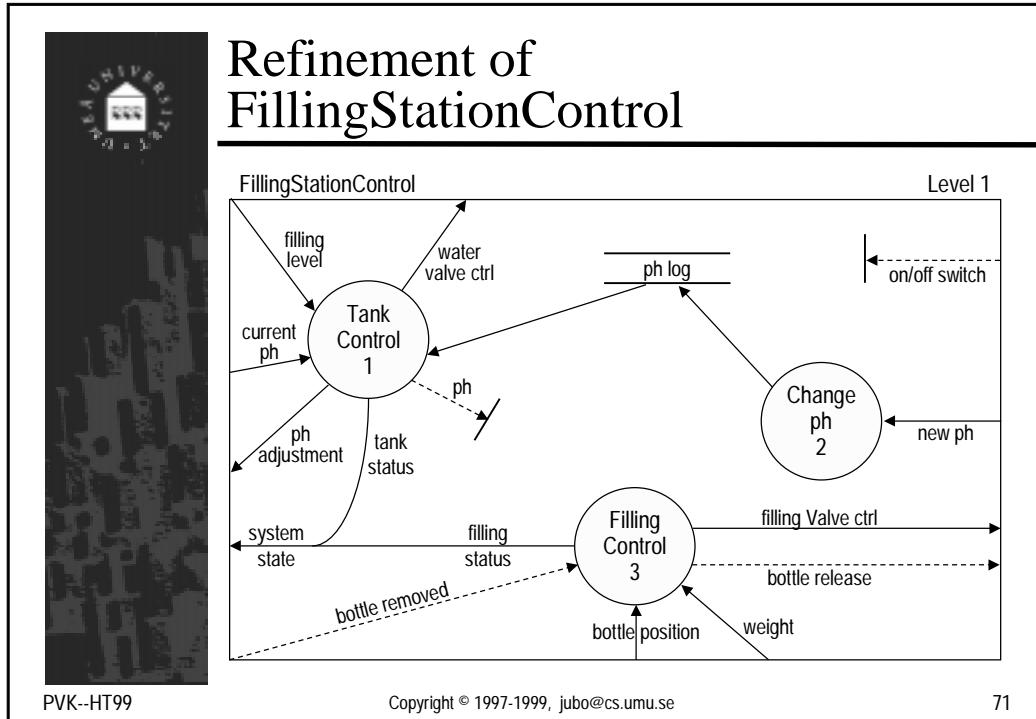
- ◆ Bottle filling station



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**Process Activation Table (PAT)**

- ◆ Shows how processes are activated/deactivated depending on the control flows
- ◆ To model complex dependencies that depend on internal system states STDs are needed

FillingStationControl

		Process activation		
Control input		Tank Control 1	Change ph 2	Filling Control 3
on/off switch	on	1	0	1
on	OK out of bounds	1	1	1
off	--	0	0	0

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## SA/RT--Summary

- ◆ Advantages
  - Straight forward extension of SA
  - Supports hierarchical decomposition
  - Broad applicability
  - Quite well defined (STDs)
  - Tool support
- ◆ Disadvantages
  - Very poor data descriptions
- Found its way to OO approaches

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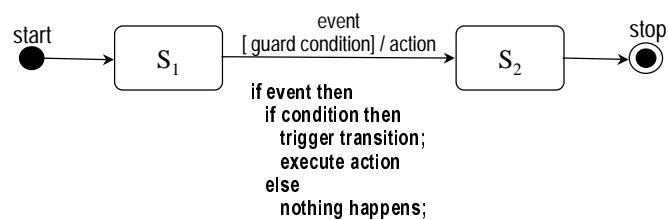
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## State Transition Diagram (STD)

- ◆ Most often used independently of SA/RT



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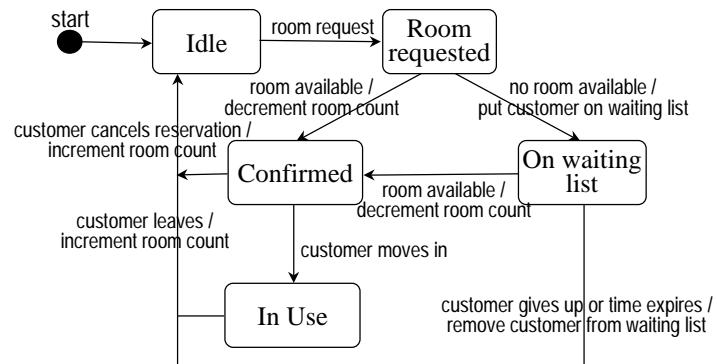
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## STD Example

- ◆ Room reservation system



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## Data Modelling

- ◆ The entity-relationship (ER) model was developed by Chen (late 70s) to support data(base) modeling
- ◆ Focuses only on the static structure of data
- ◆ Notation
  - Entity-relationship diagrams (ERDs)
  - Attribute dictionary

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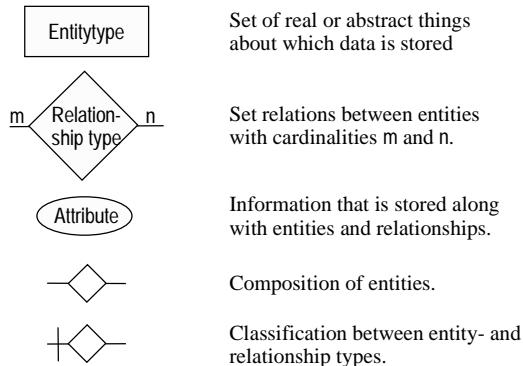
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## ERD Notation

- ◆ According to Chen + common extensions

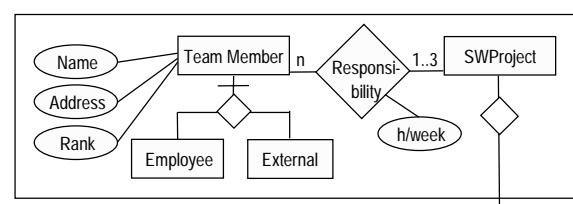


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## ERD--An Example

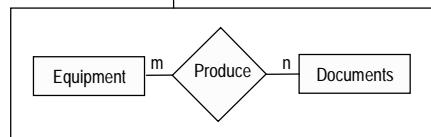


### Attribute Dictionary

Attribute structures  
TeamMember = Name, Address, Rank;  
Employee = ...;  
...

### Attribute types

Name = STRING;  
Address = STRING;  
...



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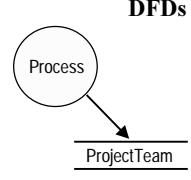
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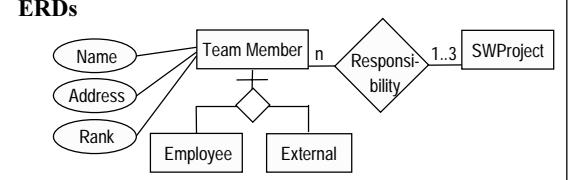


## SA/ER Integration

**DFDs**



**ERDs**



**Data Dictionary**

```

ProjectTeam = { TeamMember }n
TeamMember = Name + Address + Rank
...

```

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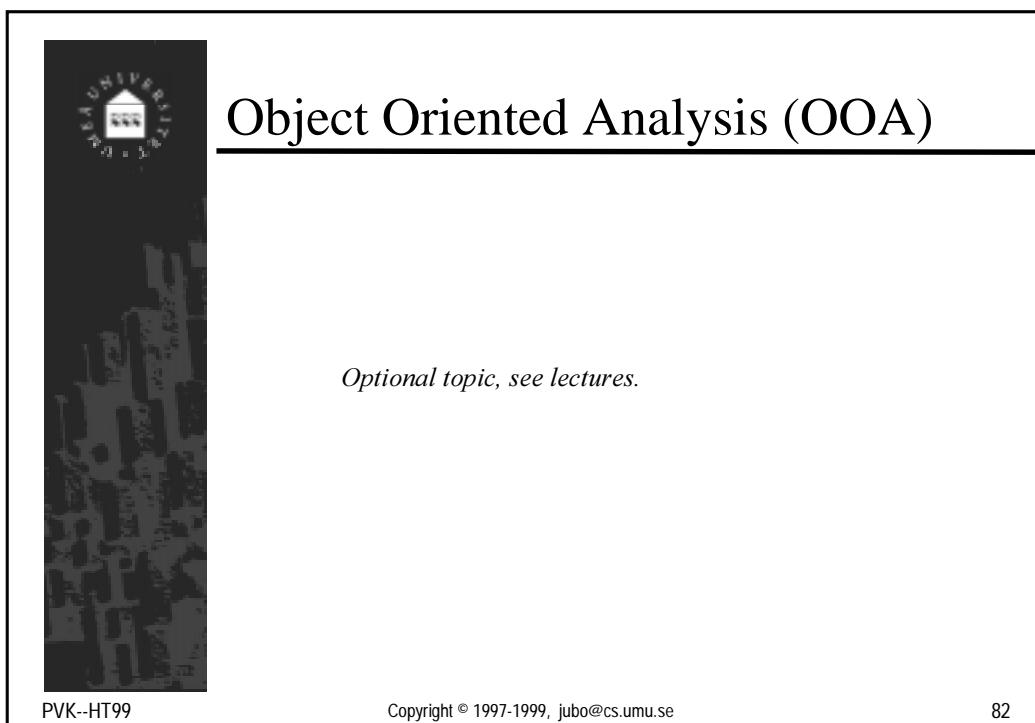
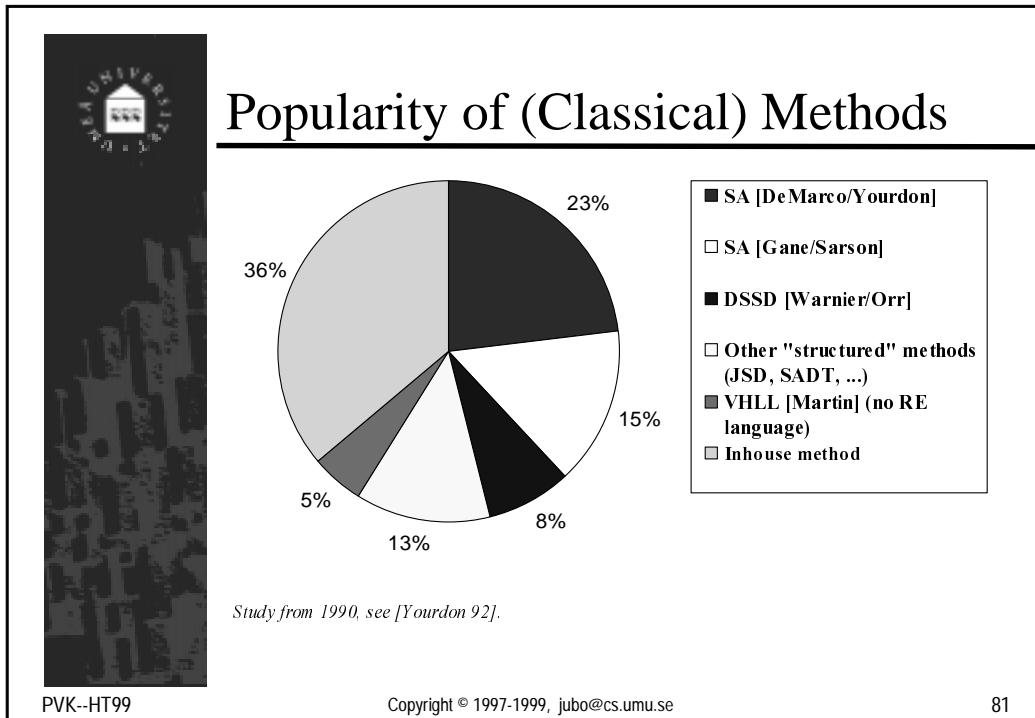


## ERM--Summary

- ◆ Advantages
  - Simple notation
  - Supports hierarchical and structural decomposition
  - Easy to understand
  - Good communication medium
  - Well understood
  - Widely used
  - Good tool support
- Well-suited for DB design
- Extensions of ERM lead to OO approaches

- ◆ Disadvantages
  - No behaviour descriptions
  - No control descriptions
- Almost useless for non-DB applications

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## Contents

- ⇒ Introduction ✓
- ⇒ Requirements Engineering ✓
- ⇒ **UI Design**
- ⇒ Project Management
- ⇒ Software Design
- ⇒ Detailed Design and Coding
- ⇒ Quality Assurance



## ⇒ **UI Design**

- ⇒ UI Design Activities
- ⇒ General Guidelines
- ⇒ Toolkits



## UI Design Activities

- ◆ Analyse the users
  - Are they used to computers
  - Have they used similar systems
  - Are there different user groups
  - Are they trained before using the system
  - Have they certain cultural or ethnic backgrounds
  - ..
- ◆ Build prototype(s)
- ◆ Evaluate prototype(s)
- ◆ Choose an UI style
  - Command-line interface
  - Natural language interface
  - Menu-oriented interface
  - Question-answer dialogues
  - Form fill-in menus
  - Direct manipulation interface
  - WIMP interface
    - Windows
    - Icons
    - Menus
    - Pointing devices
  - Some combination

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## UI Design Issues

- ◆ Response time
- ◆ Error handling
  - Responses to undesired inputs
  - Error messages
- ◆ Help facilities
- ◆ Customisation facilities
- ◆ Common look and feel
- ◆ Guidelines
- ◆ Standards
- ◆ Human memory load
  - # Commands
  - # Arguments
  - # Windows
  - # System states
  - ...
- ◆ Colour coding
- ◆ Icon selection
- ◆ ...

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## General UI Design Guidelines

- ◆ Be consistent
- ◆ Offer meaningful feedback
- ◆ Ask for verification of any non-trivial destructive action
- ◆ Permit easy reversal of most actions
- ◆ Reduce memory load
- ◆ Seek efficiency (minimise user input, mouse motions, astonishment, ...)
- ◆ Forgive mistakes
- ◆ Categorise and organise activities
- ◆ Provide context-sensitive help
- ◆ Use simple action verbs or short verb phrases to name commands

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## Guidelines for Displaying Information

- ◆ Display only the currently relevant information
- ◆ Use appropriate presentation forms (for example graphs instead of clumsy tables)
- ◆ Use consistent labels, standard abbreviations and predictable colours
- ◆ Maintain visual context
- ◆ Produce meaningful error messages
- ◆ Format text to aid in understanding
- ◆ Compartmentalise different types of information
- ◆ Use “analogue” displays
- ◆ Use screen geography effectively

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## Guidelines for Data Input

- ◆ Minimise the number of input actions
- ◆ Maintain consistency between information display and data input
- ◆ Interaction should be flexible (keyboard, mouse)
- ◆ Allow the user to customise input
- ◆ Deactivate inappropriate commands
- ◆ Let the user control the order of activities
- ◆ Provide help
- ◆ Eliminate “mickey mouse” input

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## Specific Guidelines

- ◆ OPEN LOOK™
  - Three level certification by AT&T
- ◆ Motif
- ◆ Microsoft
- ◆ Java
- ◆ ...

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## GUI Toolkits

- ◆ Libraries with predefined “widgets” and event handling
  - MVC paradigm (Smalltalk)
  - Interviews (C++)
  - Java AWT/ Swing
  - ...
- ◆ Visual tools (WYSIWYG)
  - Visual Basic
  - Delphi
  - XYZ Builder
  - ...