

CSC408F/CSC2105F Software Engineering
Mid Term Test (15% of course mark)

Fall 2004/2005
October 28, 2004

1. (15%) *You are the chief architect in a software company. Can you explain when you can apply "Web Services" in software development, and when you cannot? Name 3 software in your company that can be reengineered with Web services, and 3 software that cannot. Support your arguments with +/- evidences.*

Answer.

4% (a) Use "Web Services" when the software development desires or has:

- (1) high interoperability (or protocol standardization) w/o -2
- (2) high reusability (or components-off-the-shelf (COTS)) w/o -2
- (3) componentization (or modularization, information hiding, large-scale complexity, need for middleware) with +0.5
- (4) dynamic matching or deployment (or networked) with +0.5

3 x 1.5% (b) 3 example software satisfying the above requirements

For each example (1.5%):

the mark = $\min(1, (\text{satisfaction mark} / 4))$

Where satisfaction mark is determined by criteria in bullet (a).

Example. *A heterogeneous database system needs high interoperability (2%) and high reusability (2%), needs to hide implementation details (+0.5%).* Since it has 4.5%, 1 mark is earned.

Explained with positive/negative reasons. w/o -0.5

2% (c) Do not use "Web Services" when the software requires

- (1) demanding performance (or real-time) w/o -1
- (2) can not use any net protocol (or extreme high security) w/o -0.5
- (3) too simple (or single component, no need for middleware) w/o -0.5

3 x 1.5% (d) 3 example software satisfying the above requirements (similar to marking scheme in (b), replace criteria (a) with criteria (c))

2. (15%) *What are the risks in a software development? How to evaluate the risk of an earthquake to the software development? Name 4 risk factors in the OmniEditor project and indicate measures that can prevent or mitigate them?*

Answer.

3%(a) Give a definition of the risk in software development (w/o -2) and list some common risks (w/o -1).

2%(b) Give the reasoning for the earthquake risk (w/o -2):

Impact is big to personnel, small to software storage (w/o -1); Probability is very small (w/o -1).

4x2.5%(c) Sum risk factor mark for at most 4 factors. Each factor is marked by:

- (1) relevant to OmniEditor (w/o -0.5)

- (2) impact analysis (w/o -0.5)
- (3) probability analysis (w/o -0.5)
- (4) risk factor prevention or mitigation (w/o -1)

3. (15%) *A competitor company A has a killer application K that dominates the market. You are recently employed by company B as a senior consultant, their application K' always has all the functionalities of K. What technical advices will you give to help take away K's market share?*

Answer.

- 5%(a) Quality (non-functional issues) improvements, w/o -5
- 5%(b) Break down of the quality into a number of issues, such as performance, usability, security, etc. w/o -5
- 5%(c) Study the company A's software, find its weakness, w/o -5
 - (d) Measuring the qualities attributes +1
 - (e) Open-source or use open standard with +1
 - (f) Give a concrete and reasonable example +1

4. (25%) *You are managing the development of a large-scale software system which already has Y out of X components developed. According to your project estimation, the undeveloped components still need T person-month to finish, while you just have N team members including yourself. Now you are pressed to complete the system within as short as S months and you can and only can recruit M more junior developers. Will you meet the time pressure? If you can, how will you reorganize the team? If you cannot, why? Please answer according to the following three scenarios:*

	X	Y	T	N	S	M
(1)	3	2	9	5	2	5
(2)	30	2	100	5	2	50
(3)	3	0	15	5	1	0

Answer.

- 5%(a) Use the numbers in estimating the time needed for the new project w/o -5
- 4%(b) Scenario (1) is not feasible because the time available is below 75% of the estimated time; otherwise -4
- 4%(c) Scenario (2) is feasible by the estimation, if hierarchical team organization is used; it is not feasible if training efforts is huge by explicit assumption; otherwise -4
- 4%(d) Scenario (3) is not feasible because the time available is far below 75% of the estimated time; otherwise -4
- 4 x 2%(e) If the calculations in the discussions make following mistakes, such as: mistake "person-month" for "month".
 - 2 per mistake: if there are more than 4 minor mistakes, -8.

5. (30%) Here is a list of unfinished requirements specifications for the "Meeting Scheduler" system (including software and human as parts of the system):

Functional Requirements	Non-functional Requirements
-----	-----
0. Schedule Meeting	1. Minimal effort
0.1 Collect Timetable	1.1 Collection effort
0.1.1 By Person	1.2 Matching effort
0.1.1.1 By email, fax and letters	2. Good Quality
0.1.1.2 By email	2.1 Minimal conflicts
0.1.2 By System	2.2 Good participation
0.1.2.1 Have updated time table	
0.1.2.2 Collect them	
0.2 Choose Schedule	
0.2.1 Manually	
0.2.2 Automatically	

- (a) For each functional requirement to the left, express its goal, input, output, pre/post conditions, exceptions.
- (b) Relate the tasks at the left hand side with the criteria at the right hand side using positive [+] or negative [-] relations (E.g. 0.1.1 [-]→ 1.1), then indicate which functional tasks are needed to fulfil the top level requirements "0" and "1", regardless to "2".

Answer

- 3% (a) If not all functional requirements are expressed, -3
- 2x3% (b) For 0, 0.1.2 (AND decompositions): check if a parent goal's precondition implies the first sub goal's precondition (not -1), and the first subgoal's postcondition implies the second subgoal's precondition (not -1), and the second subgoal's postcondition implies the parent goal's postcondition (not -1).
- 3x2% (c) For the 0.1, 0.1.1, 0.2 (OR decompositions): check whether each subgoal's postcondition implies the parent goal's postcondition (w/o -1), and the parent's precondition implies the subgoal's precondition (w/o -1).
- 10% (d) For the second question, check list:
- 0.1.1 or {0.1.1.1, 0.1.1.2} -[-]-> 1.1, w/o -2
- 0.1.2 or {0.1.2.1, 0.1.2.2} -[+]-> 1.1, w/o -2
- 0.2.1 -[-]-> 1.2, 0.2.2 -[+]-> 1.2, w/o -2
- 0.2.1 -[-]-> 2.1, 0.2.2 -[+]-> 2.1, w/o -2
- 0.2.1 -[+]-> 2.2, 0.2.2 -[-]-> 2.2, w/o -2
- 5% (e) if 2 is not concerned, one can remove the last 4 relations and prune the functional requirements based on the other relations. The resulting functional requirements should only have:

{ 0, 0.1, 0.1.2, 0.1.2.1, 0.1.2.2, 0.2, 0.2.2 }

If the answer has only the leaf-goals {0.1.2.1, 0.1.2.2, 0.2.2}, it is also right.