

Risk-Based Testing

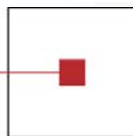
Increasing Effectiveness and Efficiency in Testing

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PROFES 2016



Contact & Introduction



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Administrative Notes

- Start, Finish
 - 9:00 - 12:00
- Web Site → <http://mfelderer.at/profes16rbt>
 - Slides
 - TED Forms

Overview of the Tutorial

- Introduction and Background
 - Software Testing
 - Risk and Quality
 - Probability and Impact
- Benefits of Risk-Based Testing
- Risk-Based Testing Process
 - Estimation of Probability and Impact
 - Risk Value and Risk Levels
 - Test Strategy Development & Refinement
- Results and Lessons Learned

TED – Making the Tutorial Interactive



- Share your experience and opinion via TED polls
 - <http://mfelderer.at/profes16rbt>
- Instant evaluation of aggregated results

Your key here!

SWQD16 RBT: Demographie

*Required

Geben Sie Ihr Pseudonym ein: *

Wie viele Jahre haben Sie bereits im Bereich Softwaretest gearbeitet?

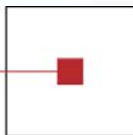
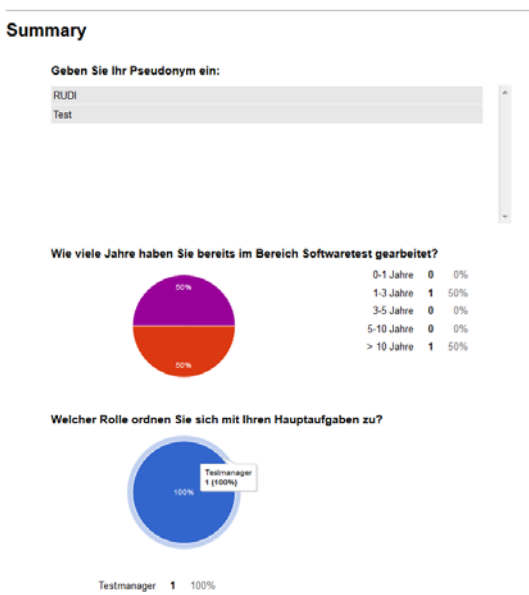
0-1 Jahre
 1-3 Jahre
 3-5 Jahre
 5-10 Jahre
 > 10 Jahre

Welcher Rolle ordnen Sie sich mit Ihren Hauptaufgaben zu?

Testmanager
 Tester
 Requirements Engineer
 Softwareentwickler
 Projektleiter
 Softwarearchitekt
 Betrieb & Support
 Executive Management
 Other:

In welcher Branche sind die Projekte/Produkte Ihrer Organisation überwiegend einzuordnen?

Finanzdienstleistung
 Telekommunikation



TED – Who are you?



→ <http://mfelderer.at/profes16rbt>

- TED-1 Demographics



TED – Why Risk-based Testing?



- What is the motivation for Risk-Based Testing?

→ <http://mfelderer.at/profes16rbt>

- TED-2 Motivation



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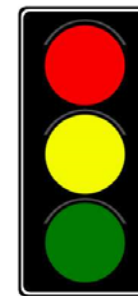
Software Testing

- Software testing is an **investigation** conducted to **provide stakeholders with information about the quality** of the product or service under test
- **Process** consisting of all lifecycle activities concerned with **planning, preparation** and **evaluation of software products or services** and related work products to determine that
 - they **satisfy specified requirements**,
 - to demonstrate that they are **fit for purpose** and
 - to **detect defects**

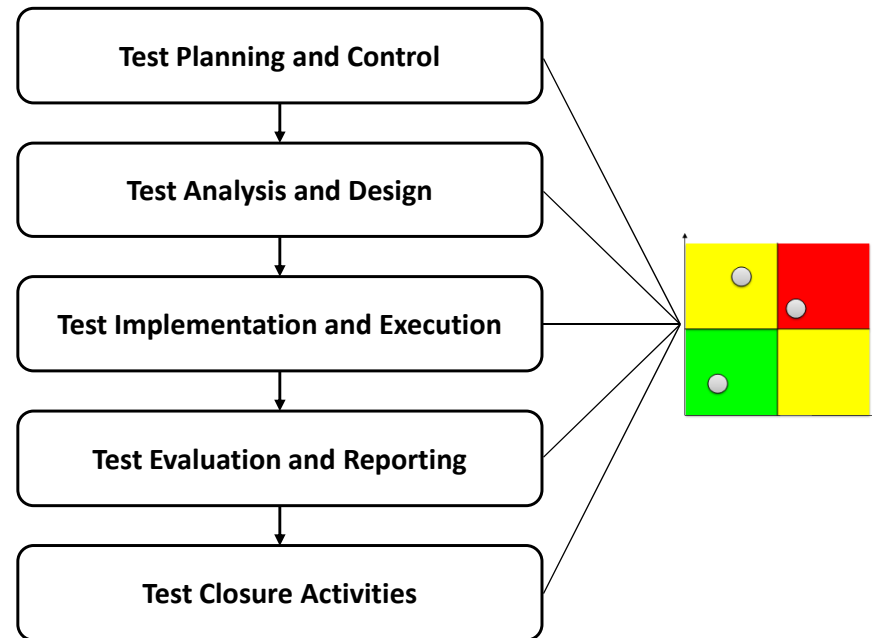
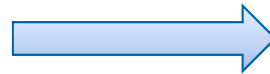
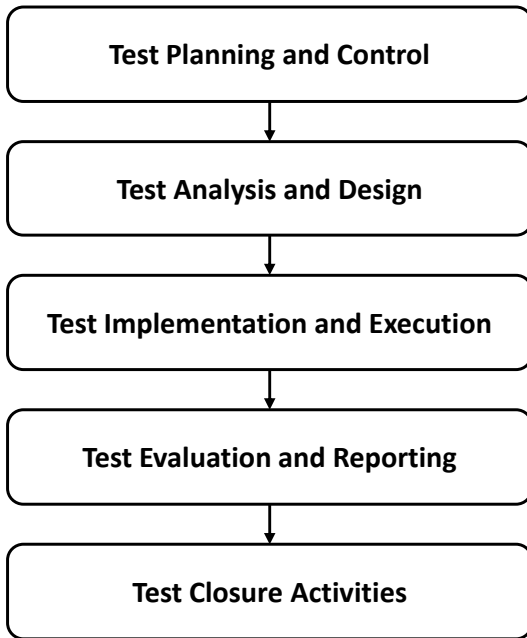
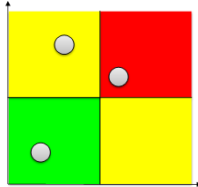


Risk-Based Testing (RBT)

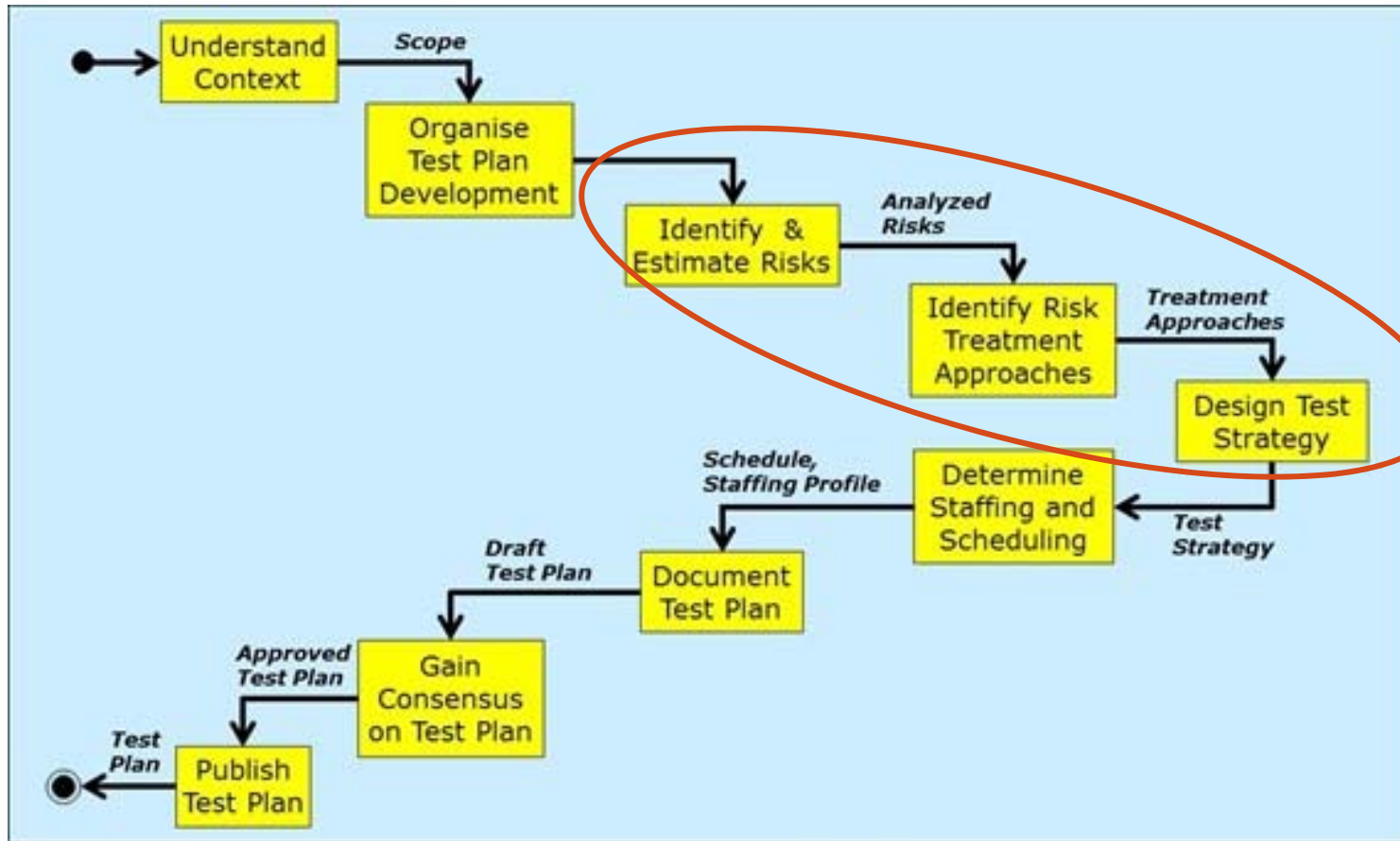
- Approach to testing to **reduce the level of product risks** and **inform stakeholders** of their status, starting in the initial stages of a project
 - It involves the identification of product risks and the use of risk levels to guide the test process
- Testing approach which considers **risks of the software product** as the guiding factor to **support decisions** in all phases of the **test process**



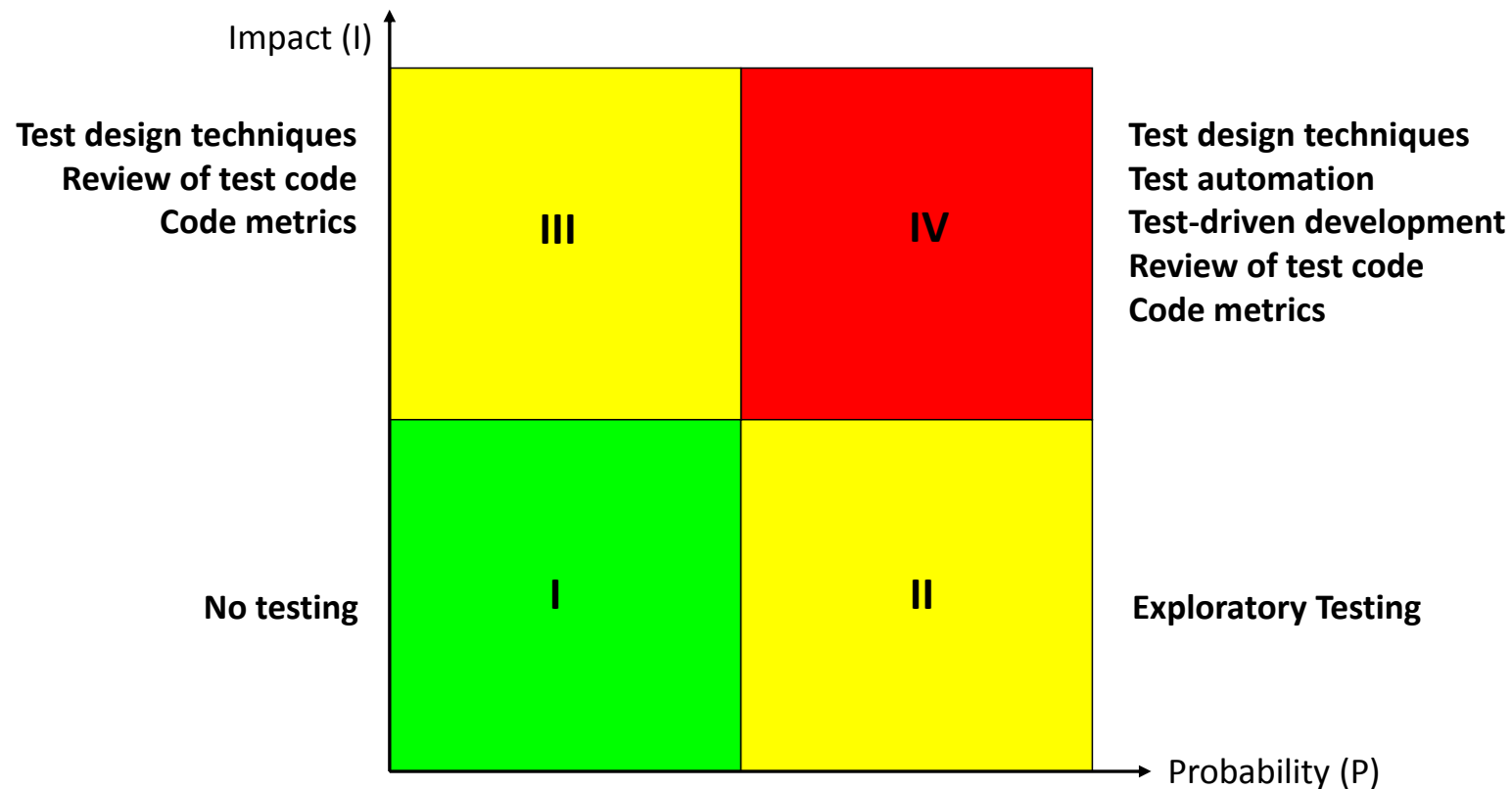
Risk-Based Testing



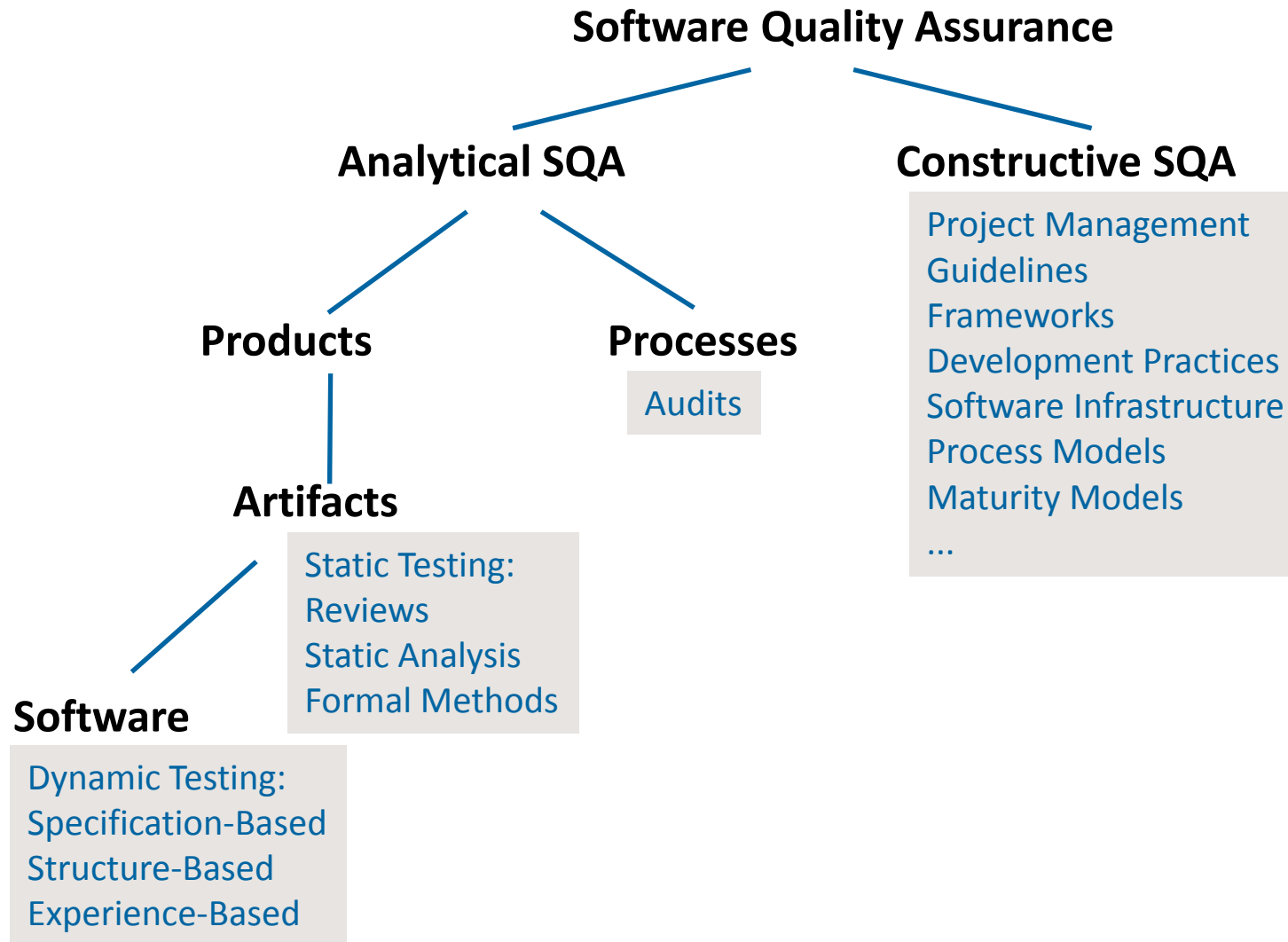
Compliance with Standards: ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119



Decision Support: Risk-Based Test Strategy

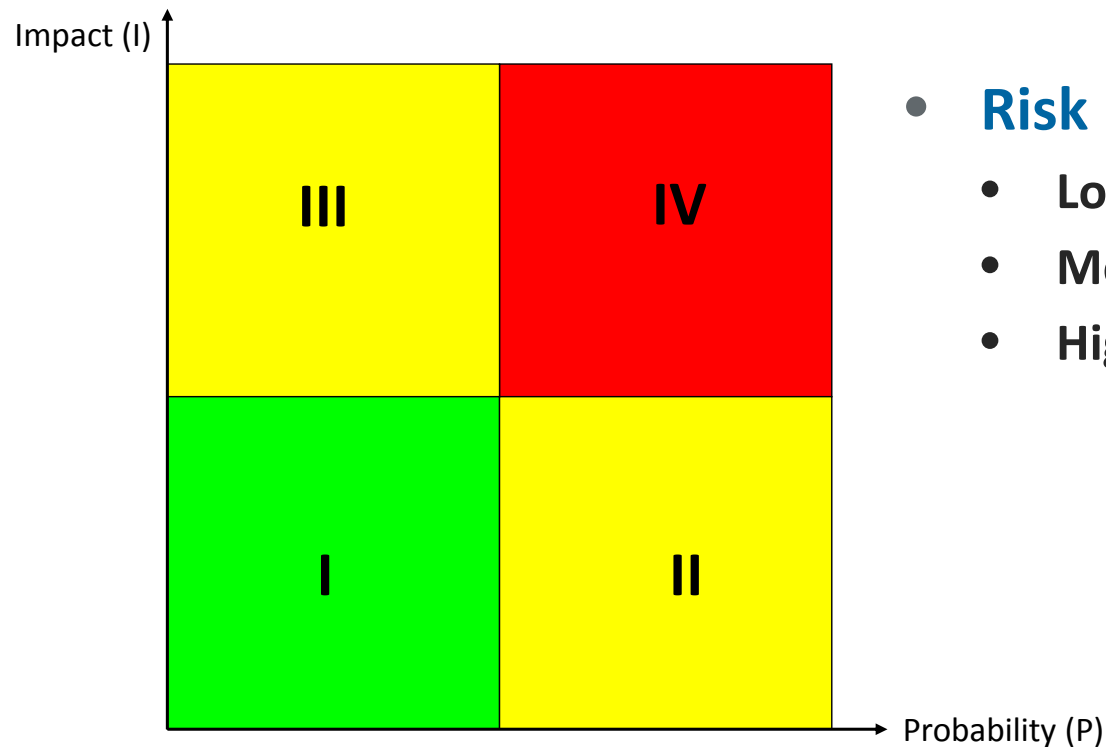


Software Quality Assurance (SQA)



Risk Definition

- A factor that could result in **future negative consequences**; usually expressed as **impact** and **probability**



- **Risk levels as 2x2 matrix**

- **Low Risk: I**
- **Medium Risk: II, IV**
- **High Risk: III**

Business Risk



- **Strategic Risk**
 - associated with the operations of that particular industry
- **Financial Risk**
 - associated with the financial structure and transactions of industry
- **Operational Risk**
 - associated with the operational and administrative procedures of the particular industry which are very common in today's generation
- **Compliance Risk (Legal Risk)**
 - associated with need to comply with rules and government regulations
- **Other Risks**
 - different risks like natural disaster (floods) and others depend upon the nature and scale of the industry

Software Risk



- Factor that **could result in future negative software related consequences**
 - typically determined by the **probability** of its occurrence and its **impact**
- **Product Risk**
 - Risk directly related to **product** or **test object**, e.g. deployment of software with severe faults, low security, low usability, low performance, low data quality, missing functionality
- **Project Risk**
 - Risk related to **management and control of the (test) project**, e.g. lack of staffing, strict deadlines, changing requirements

Product Quality and Risk

- Product quality and risk may be considered as **two different sides of the same coin**
- **Product Quality**
 - degree to which a product satisfies the stated and implied needs of its various stakeholders and thus provides value to the enterprise
- **Product Risk**
 - degree to which a product does not satisfy the stated and implied needs of its various stakeholders and thus represents potential damages and losses to the enterprise



Probability and Impact

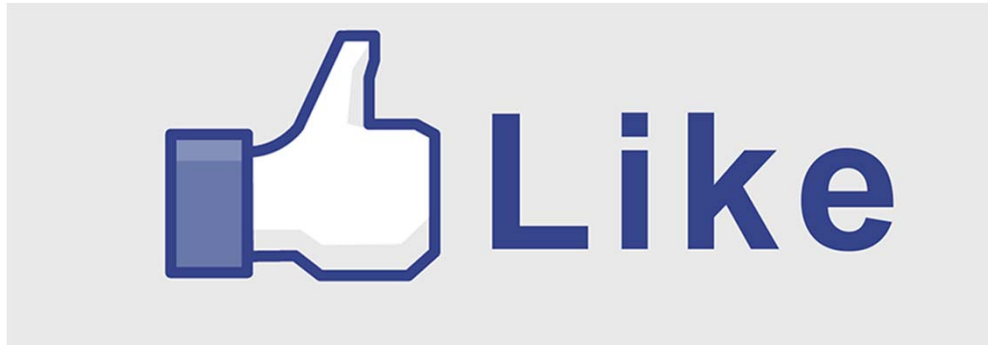
- *Probability values* – express the **likelihood of defectiveness** of a risk item
 - i.e., the likelihood that a **fault exists in a specific product component** due to an error in a previous development phase that may lead to a failure

Component				
Name	Count	Percentage		Link
Bugzilla-General	4047		21%	Link
Creating/Changing Bugs	2627		13%	Link
Query/Bug List	2152		11%	Link
User Interface	1731		9%	Link
Administration	1522		8%	Link
Attachments & Requests	1123		6%	Link
Installation & Upgrading	957		5%	Link



Probability and Impact

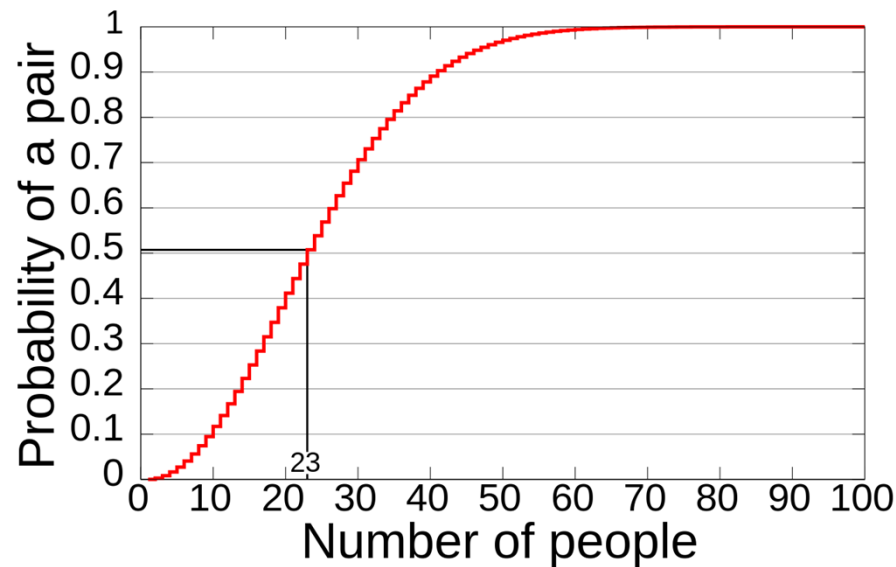
- *Impact values* – express the **consequences of risk items** being defective
 - i.e., the **negative effect** that a defect in a specific component has on the user or customer and, ultimately, on the **company's business success**



Example: Probability Estimation

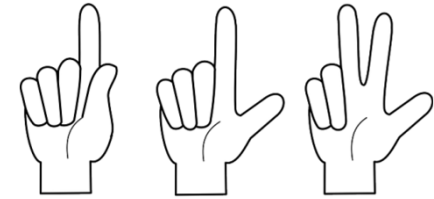
How high is the probability that two people in this room have the same birthday?

$$P(n) = 1 - \frac{365 \cdot 364 \cdots (365 - (n - 1))}{365^n}$$



Probability estimation can be counter-intuitive. Try to count or compute!

Insights from Software Estimation



- **Count if at all possible**

If you can count the answer directly, you should do that first. That approach produces the most accurate answer.



- **Compute when you can't count**

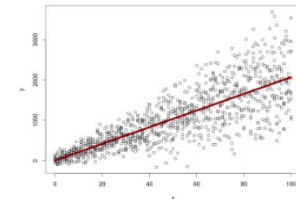
If you can't count the answer directly, you should count something else and then compute the answer by using some sort of calibration data.

- **Seek judgment as a last resort**

Forecasting with estimation and prediction techniques

Use range estimates (three-points: best-case, most likely, worst-case)

Incorporate opinions of a range of different experts to improve estimation results



Types of Risk Assessment

- **Implicit** risk assessment without explicit risk values or levels
 - **Subjective** view of each tester
 - **Objective** view common between testers

- **Explicit** risk assessment
 - **Qualitative** assessment by listing and prioritizing risks
 - **Quantitative** assessment by explicitly calculating risks



Name	I	II	III	IV	Risk
Component A			x		669
Componnet B				x	2205
Component C		x			881
Component D		x			750
Component E	x				105
Component F		x			360

TED – How are Risks Defined?



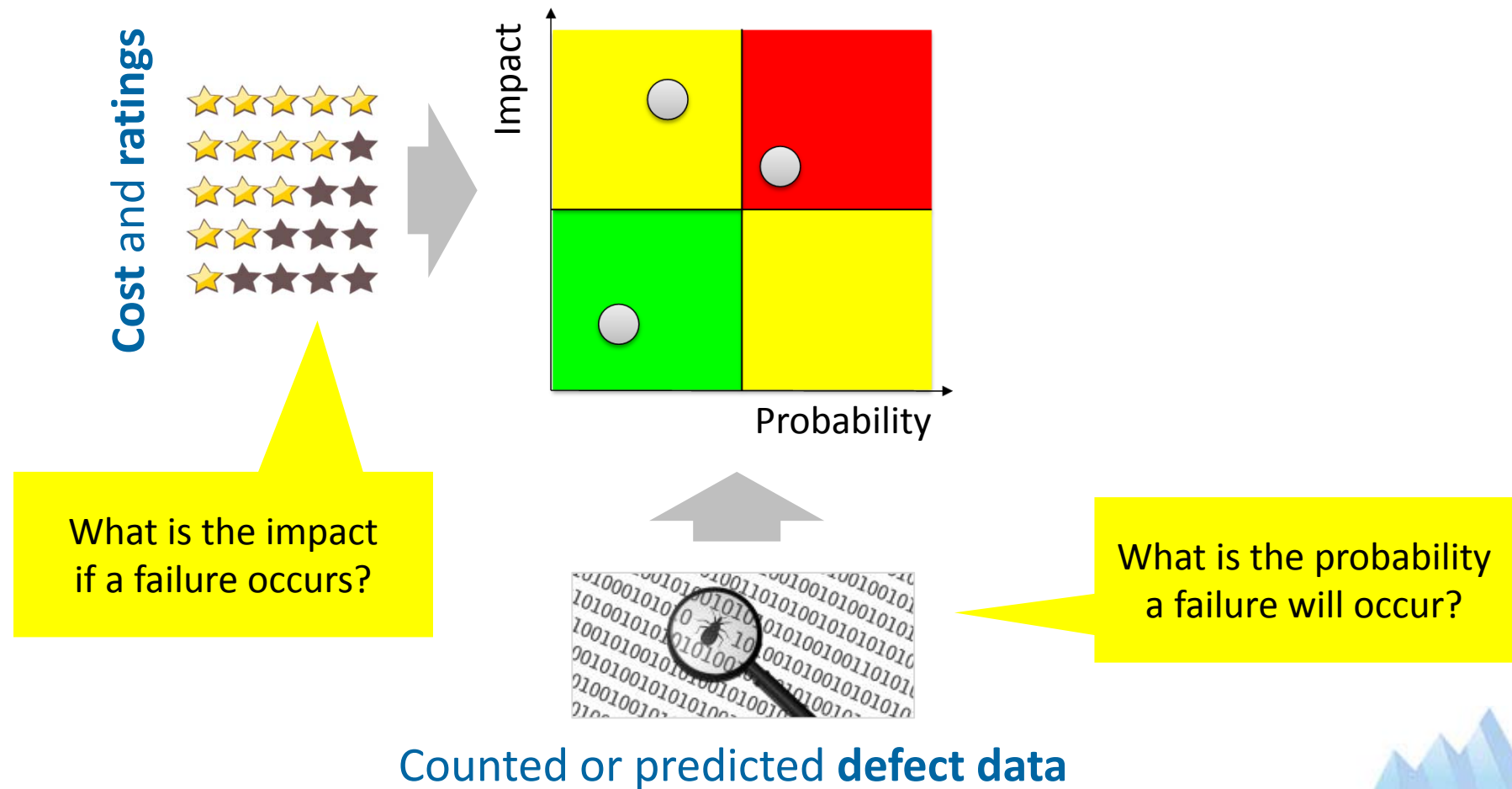
- In which phases/activities do you use risks?
- How do you define risks?

→ <http://mfelderer.at/profes16rbt>

- TED-3 Used Risks



Risk Analysis and Evaluation



Possible Benefits of Risk-Based Testing

- **Improved efficiency**
 - Reduce testing time
 - Reduce testing budget
 - Earlier release date
- **Improved test effectiveness**
 - Detection of additional defects
 - Early detection of critical defects
 - Increased defect detection rate of single tests
- **Management support**
 - Improvement of decisions and processes
 - Fulfillment of industry standards and organizational regulations

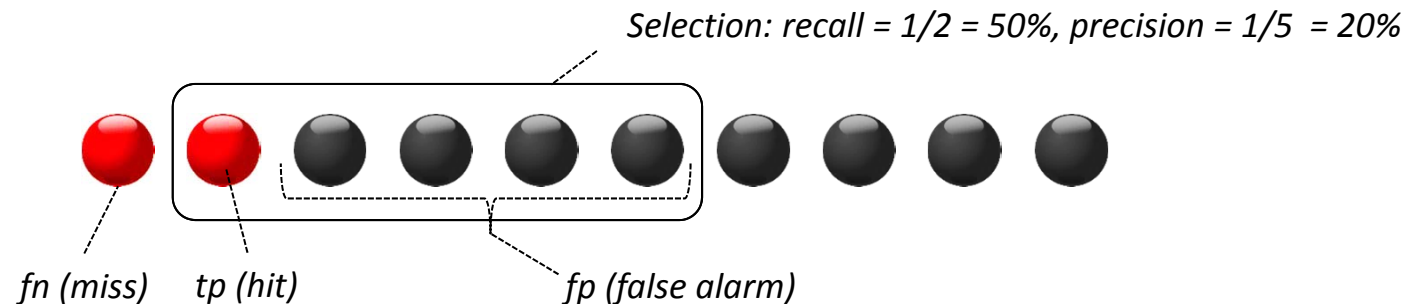


Overview of the Tutorial

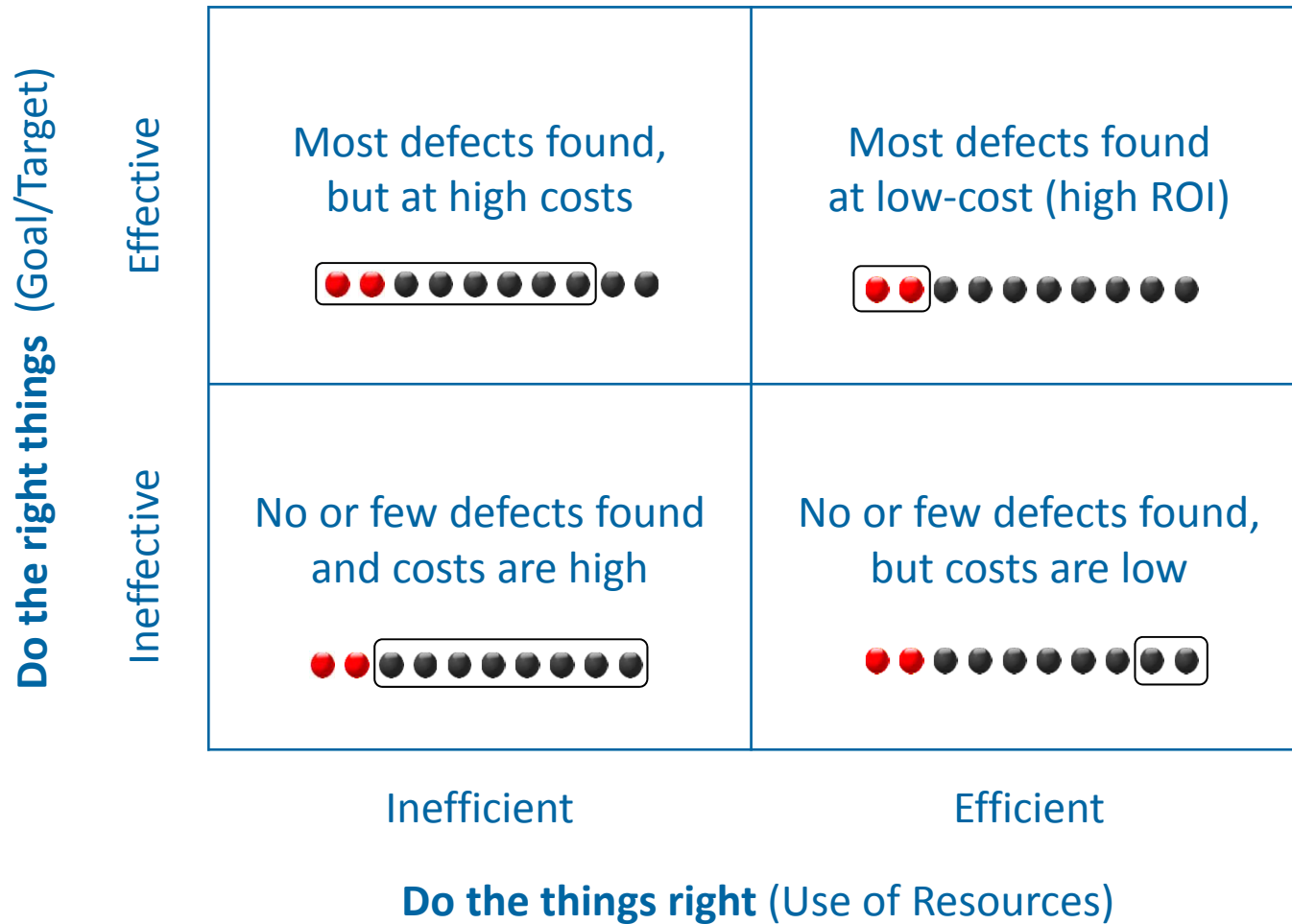
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Effectiveness and Efficiency in Software Testing

- Effectiveness | $Recall = tp / (tp + fn)$
 - How many defects out of all defects have been found?
 - Goal: Finding more defects, earlier, critical ones ...
- Efficiency | $Precision = tp / (tp + fp)$
 - How many of the executed tests actually revealed defects?
 - Goal: Reduce time of testing, cost, ...

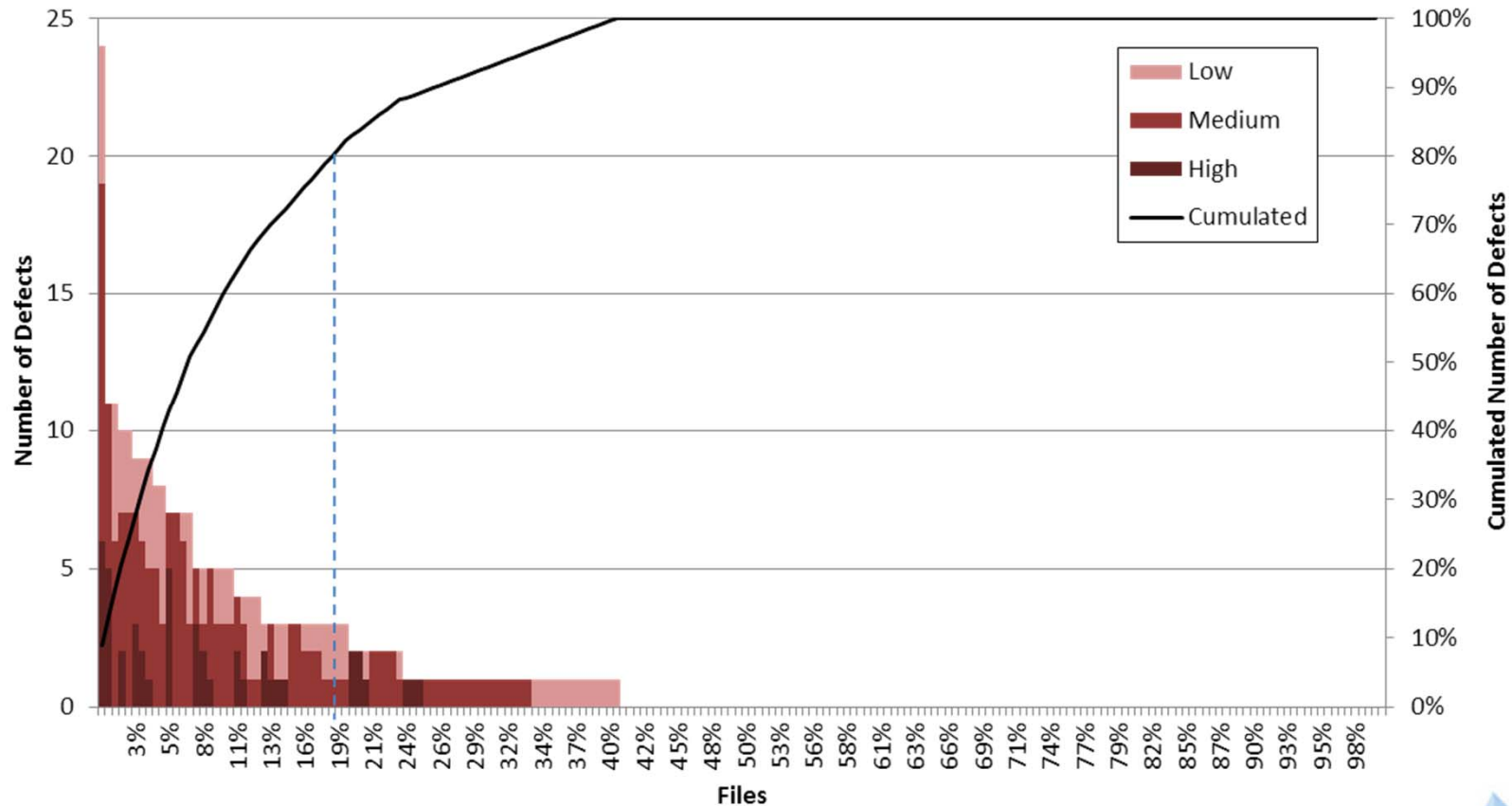


Effectiveness and Efficiency in Software Testing



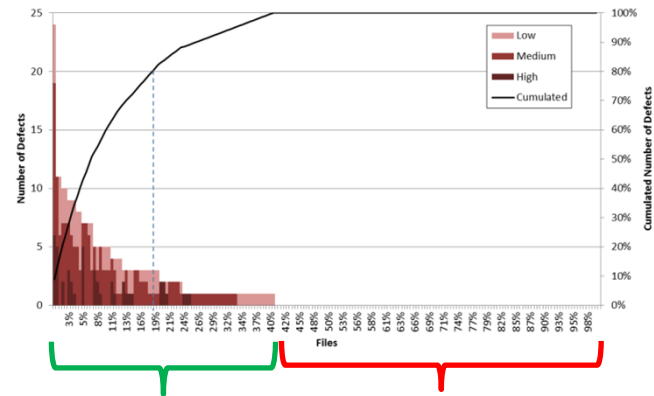
Effectiveness and Efficiency in Software Testing

Inhomogeneous distribution of defects



Effectiveness and Efficiency in Software Testing

Inhomogeneous distribution of defects



MORE TEST **LESS**

Effectiveness **Efficiency**

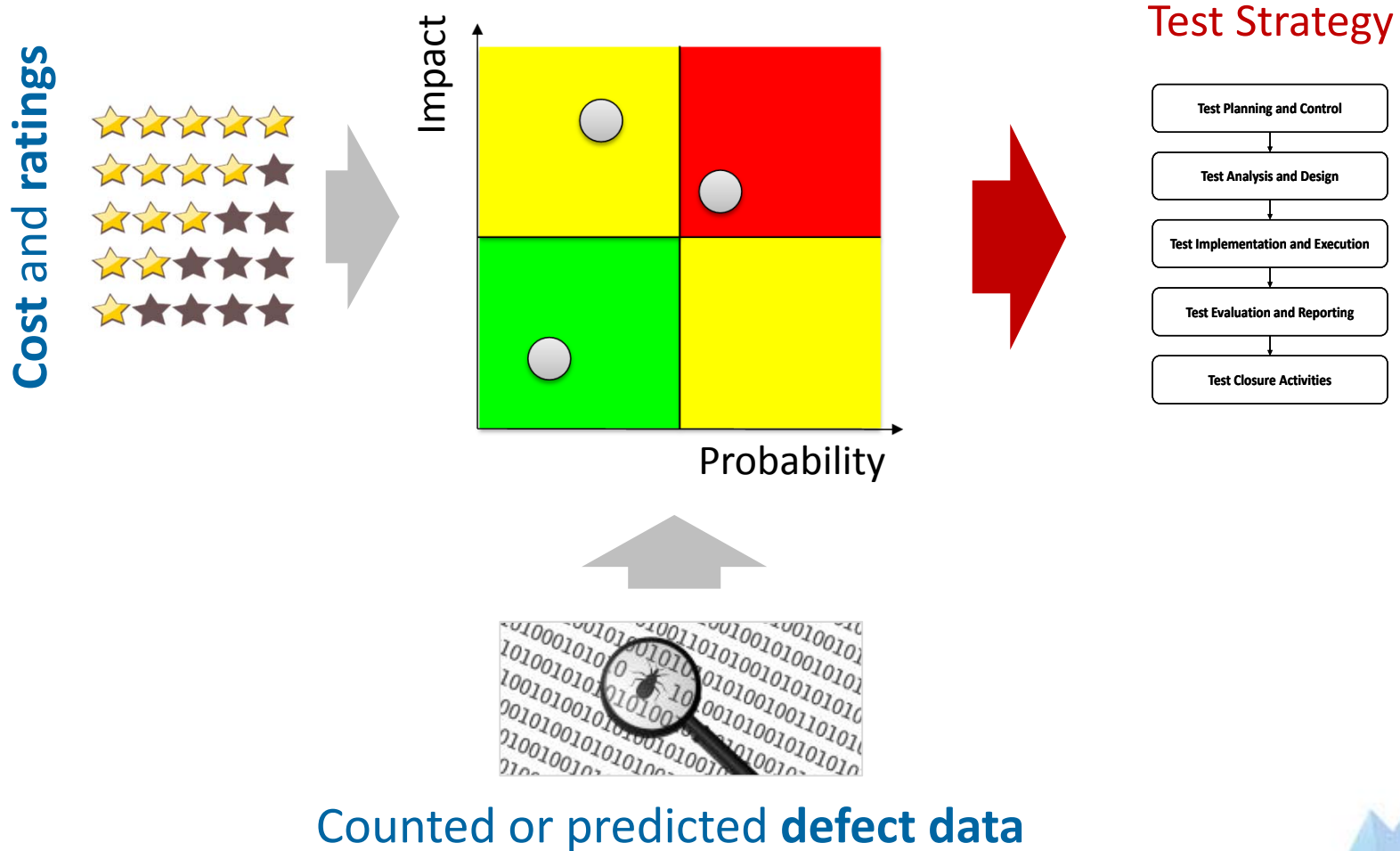
- Finding more defects
- Finding defects earlier
- Finding the critical defects
- ...

- Reduce time of testing
- Reduce cost of testing
- ...

Overview of the Tutorial

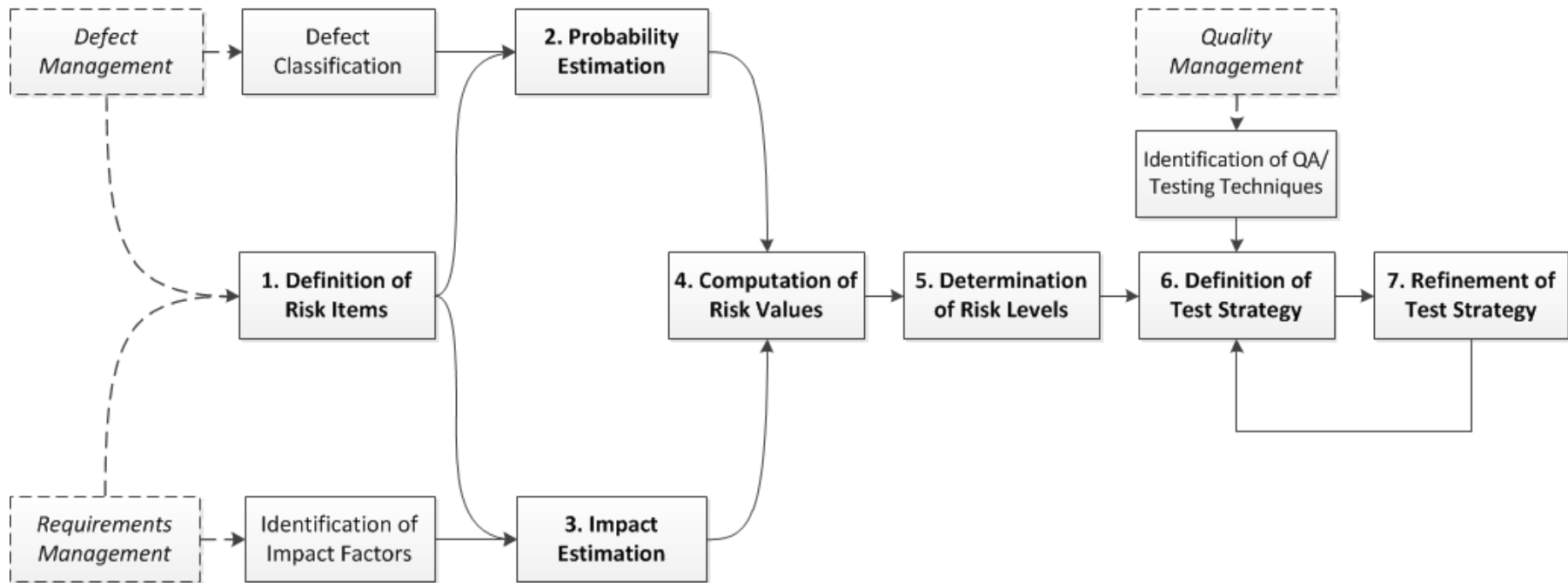
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Risk Analysis and Evaluation

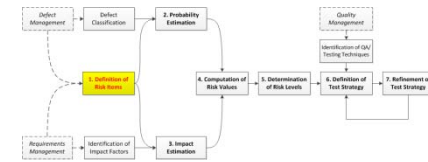


Process for Risk-based Test Strategy Development

- Overview



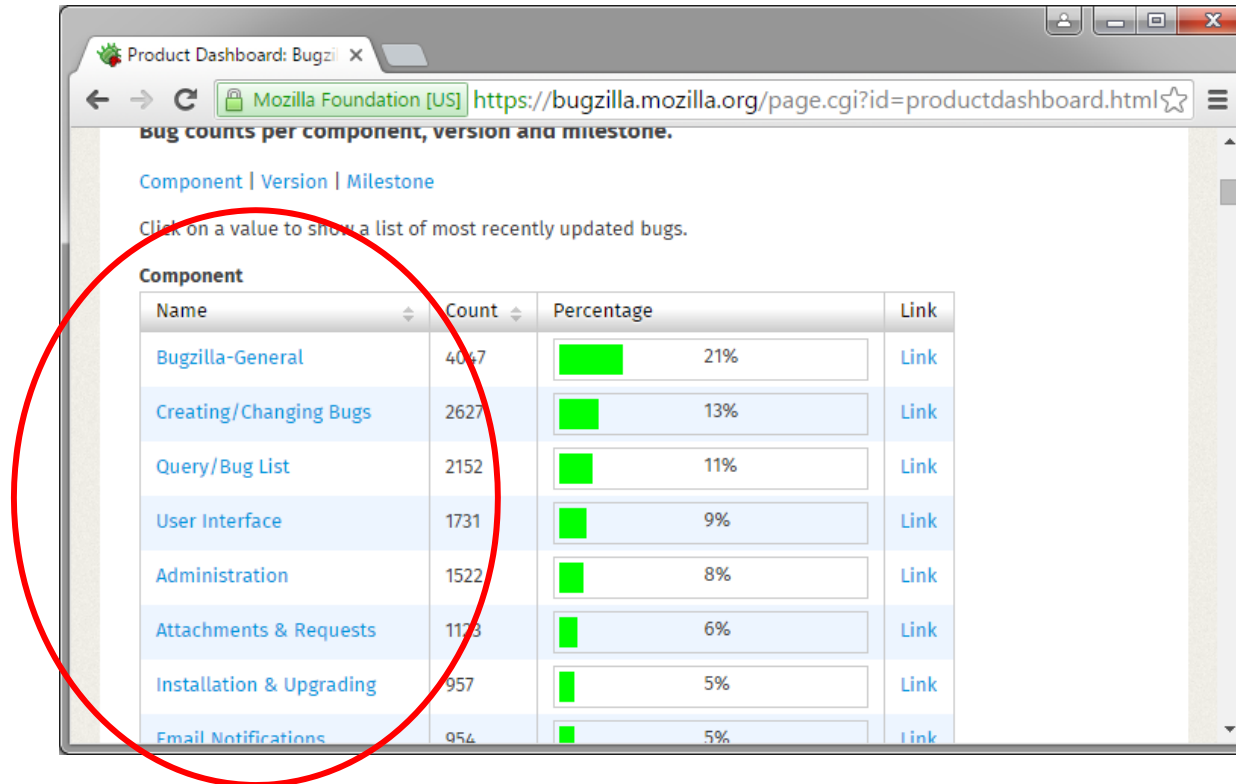
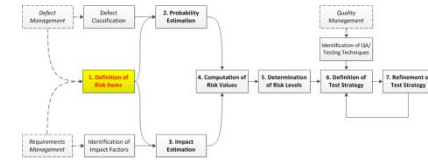
1. Definition of Risk Items



- *Risk Item* – Basic elements of software product that can be associated with risks
 - Typically derived from **functional structure** of the product, but can also represent **non-functional aspects** or system properties
 - **Testable** objects such as sub-systems, features, components, modules or functional as well as non-functional requirements
- Possible sources of risk items: Bug tracking, requirements management, test management, ...
 - Items may have different types and granularity
 - Avoid hierarchical structures
 - Selected items should be tangible, testable objects
- **Example:** Reuse *components* defined for bug tracking

Reuse existing, well-established structures

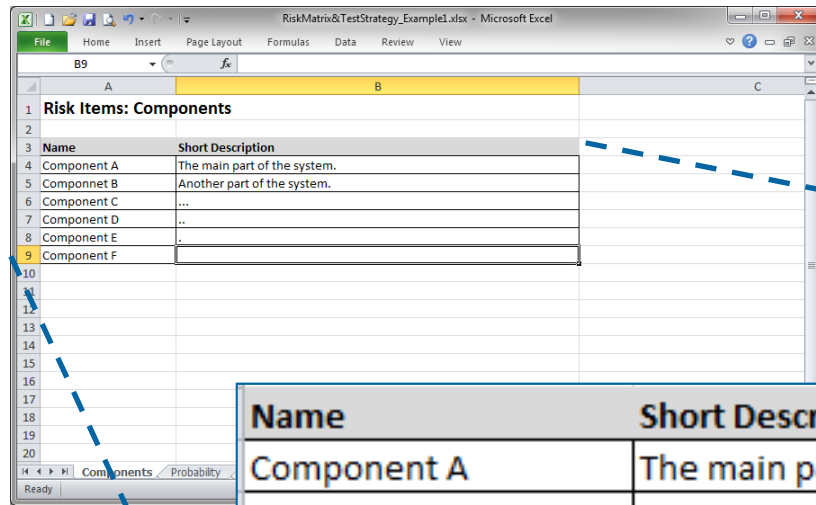
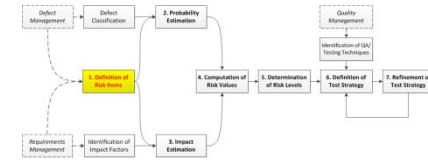
1. Definition of Risk Items



use components from bug tracking as *risk items*

1. Definition of Risk Items

- Example using an Microsoft Excel template



Name	Short Description
Component A	The main part of the system.
Componnet B	Another part of the system.
Component C	...
Component D	..
Component E	.
Component F	

TED – How do you track defects?

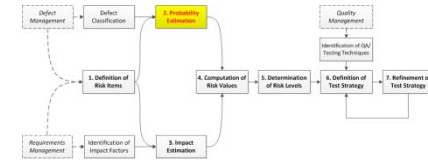


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- TED-4 Defect Management



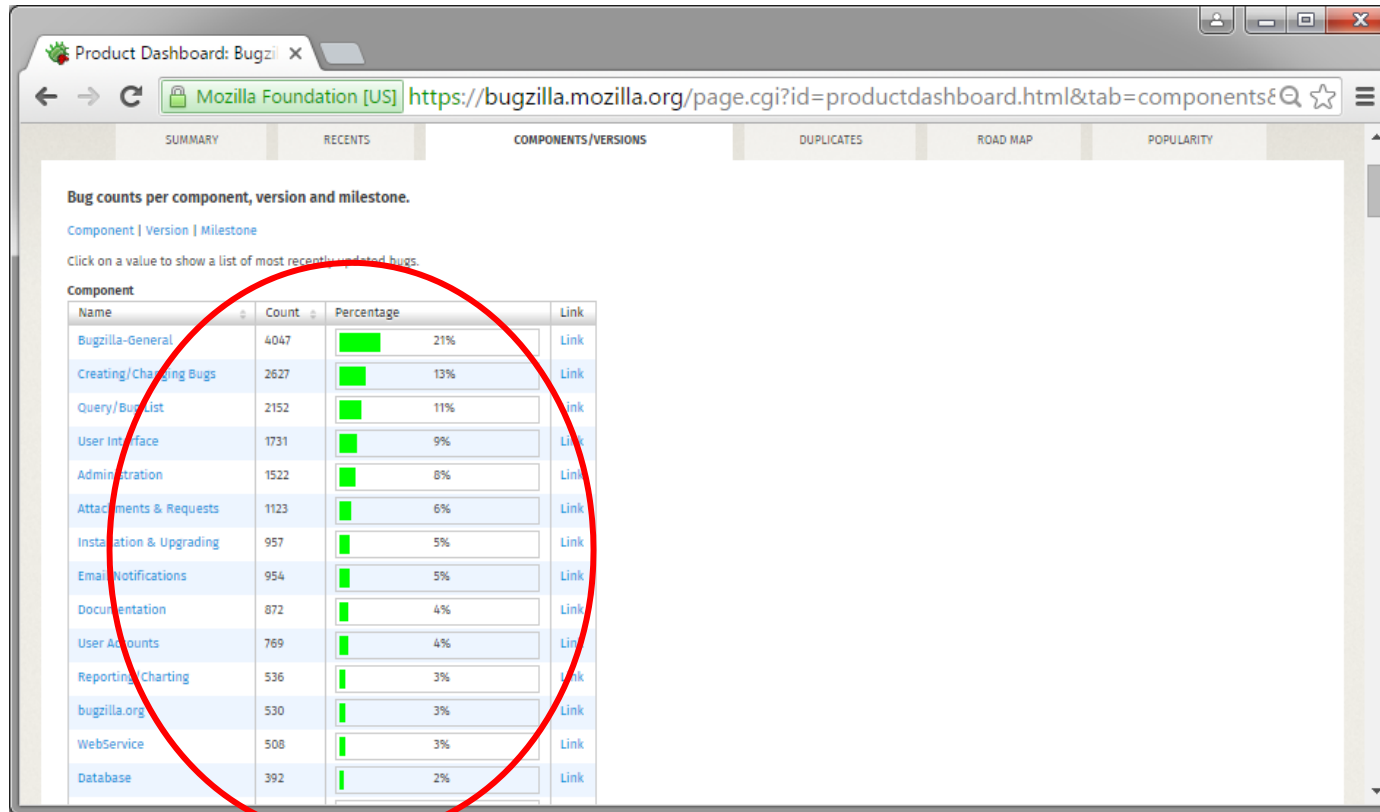
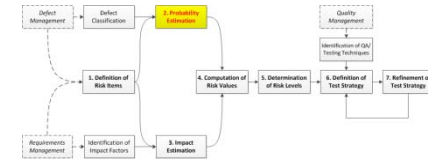
2. Probability Estimation



- *Probability* – likelihood of defectiveness of a risk item (e.g., fault exists in product component)
- Several ways to estimate probability
 - Guess, ask experts (e.g., developers), random, ...
 - Extrapolation from historical defect data
- Defect classification, defect prediction
- **Example:** Bug data included the number of defects and the severity, aggregation to a final probability value by summing up *number of defects* weighted with Fibonacci numbers for *severity*

Count if possible, compute when you can't count, guess as last resort

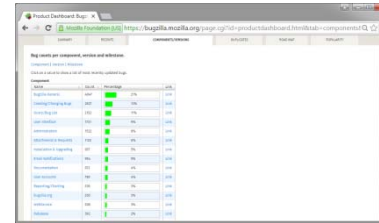
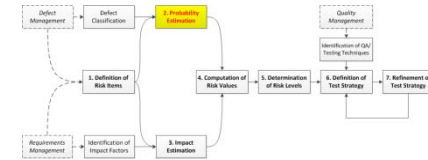
2. Probability Estimation



derive *probability* from bug counts

2. Probability Estimation

- Example using Excel template

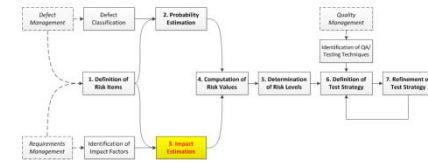


Name	Short Description
Component A	The main part of the system.
Componnet B	Another part of the system.
Component C	...
Component D	..
Component E	.
Component F	.



Component	Weight Defects	8 critical	5 major	3 normal	2 minor	1 trivial	Probability
Component A	2			1	1		5
Componnet B	5		1	2	1	1	14
Component C	5		2		2	1	15
Component D	3	1				2	10
Component E	1			1			3
Component F	3	2			1		18

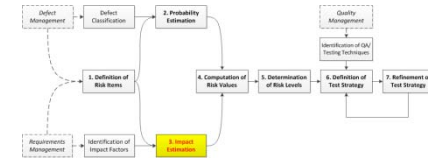
3. Impact Estimation



- *Impact Value* – Expresses the consequences of risk items being defective (negative effect on user or customer and, ultimately, on the company’s business success)
- Impact is related to
 - Expected value of the item for the user/customer (as elicited in requirements engineering)
 - Number of affected users/customers
 - Cost of failures (internal and external failure cost)
- **Example:** business values associated with requirements
 - Use requirements prioritization techniques for estimating impact value
 - Derive the impact values from license revenues (if software components are licensed individually)

Determine impact factors using a fishbone diagram

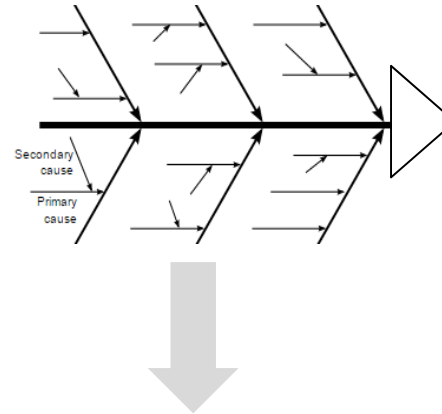
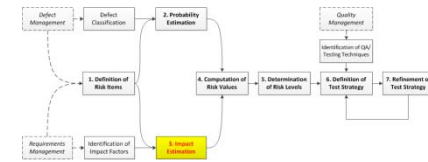
3. Impact Estimation (from Cost of Quality)



- **Internal failure costs** – to remedy defects discovered before the product is delivered to the customer
 - **Waste:** unnecessary extra work (e.g., meetings, defect tracking)
 - **Scrap:** useless code in defective components
 - **Rework and/or rectification:** correction of defective components
 - **Failure analysis:** effort required to find the root causes of failure
- **External failure costs** – to remedy defects discovered by users and/or customers in the field
 - **Repairs and servicing:** creating hotfix, updates of systems in the field
 - **Warranty claims:** services that are re-performed under a guarantee
 - **Complaints:** service hotline handling customer complaints
 - **Returns:** handling rejected or recalled products

3. Impact Estimation

- Example using Excel template

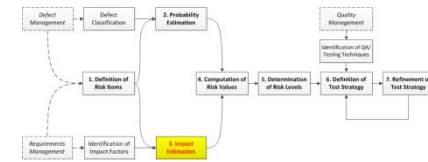


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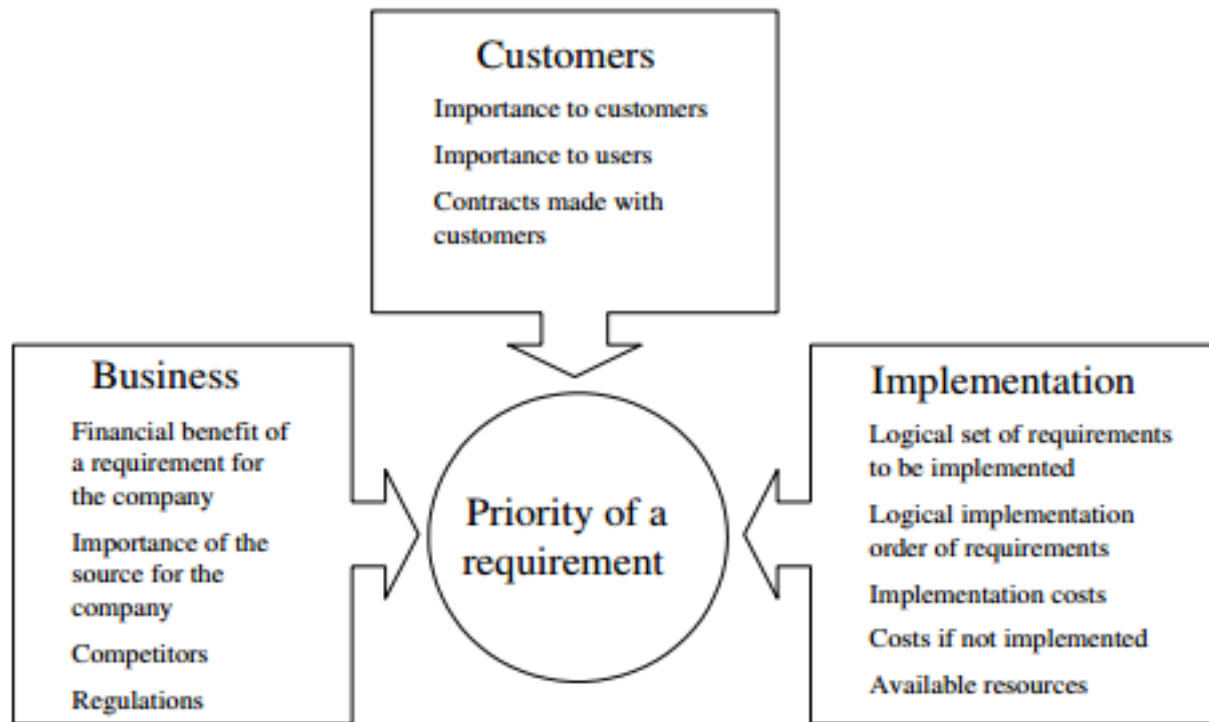


Weight	65	25	10	100	10	
Component	Market Europe	Market US	Market Asia	Certification	Hardware Design	Impact
Component A	1	2	2	1		134
Componnet B	3	1	1	1		158
Component C	2	3	3			59
Component D	4				1	75
Component E		4			1	35
Component F			4		1	20

3. Impact Estimation



- Three points of views having an effect on requirement's priorities



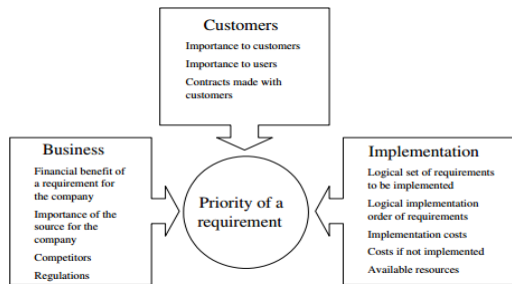
Lehtola L., et al.: Requirements prioritization challenges in practice. PROFES 2004

TED – What are your impact factors?

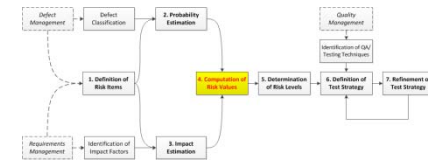


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- TED-5 Impact Factors

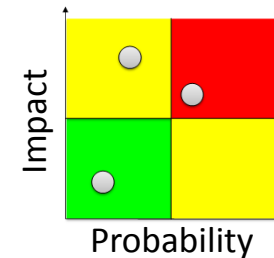


4. Computation of Risk Values



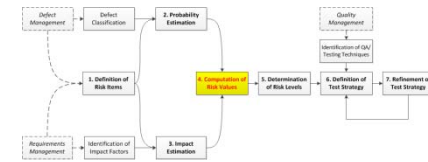
- *Risk Values* – Computed from the estimated probability and impact values according to the definition of risk as $R = P \times I$
- Aggregating probability and impact to a single risk value allows
 - Prioritization of the risk items according to risk values or ranks
 - Grouping of risk items (e.g., high, medium and low risk)
- **Example:** Aggregated risk value was computed by *Probability* times *Impact* and classifying the risk items in high/medium/low. In addition, risk items were shown in a bubble chart (matrix).

Show *P* and *I* as two separate dimensions



4. Computation of Risk Values

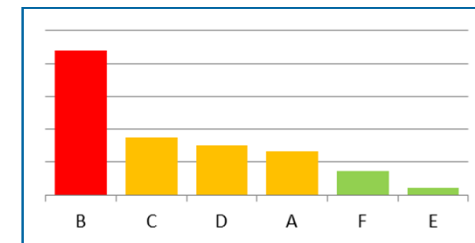
- Example using Excel template



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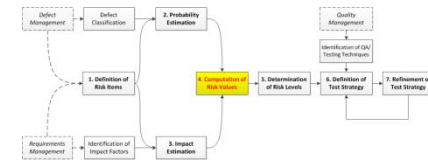
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Component	Probability	Impact	Risk	Rank
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Component B	14	158	2205	1
Component C	15	59	881	2
Component D	10	75	750	3
Component E	3	35	105	6
Component F	18	20	360	5



4. Computation of Risk Values

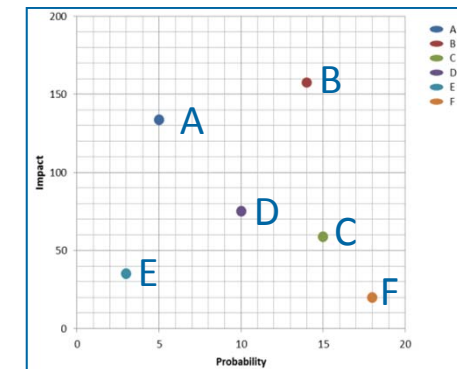
- Example using Excel template



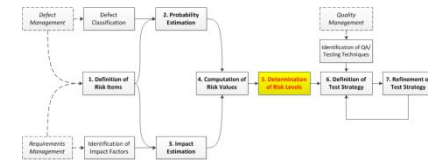
Component	Weight Defects	8 critical	5 major	3 normal	2 minor	1 trivial	Probability
Component A	2			1	1		5
Component B	5		1	2	1	1	14
Component C	5		2		2	1	15
Component D	3	1				2	10
Component E	1			1			3
Component F	3	2			1		18

Component	Weight	65 Market Europe	25 Market US	10 Market Asia	100 Certification	10 Hardware Design	Impact
Component A		1	2	2	1		134
Component B		3	1	1	1		158
Component C		2	3	3			59
Component D		4				1	75
Component E			4			1	35
Component F				4		1	20

Component	Probability	Impact	Risk	Rank
Component A	5	134	669	4
Component B	14	158	2205	1
Component C	15	59	881	2
Component D	10	75	750	3
Component E	3	35	105	6
Component F	18	20	360	5



5. Determination of Risk Levels



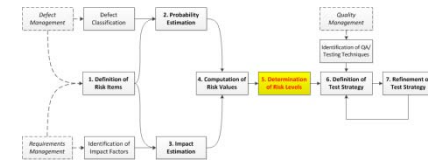
- *Risk Levels* – define classes of risks such that all risk items associated to a class are considered equally risky. Risk items of the same class are subject to the same intensity of QA and testing.
 - *Probability* and *Impact* are treated as two different dimensions
 - Risk matrix supports visual definition of risk levels by clustering risk items
 - Conducted as a manual step used to review and adjust the initially classification from computation

Individual discussion of *special cases* (e.g., risk items located close to the border of risk levels)

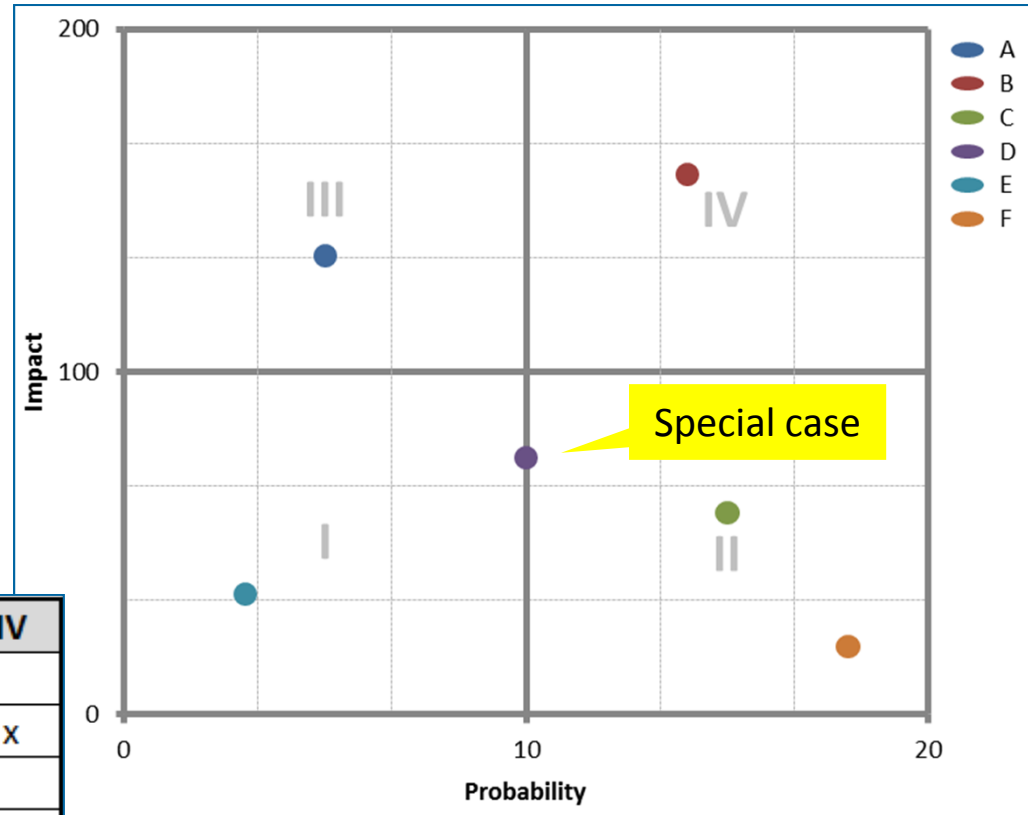
- **Example:** 2×2 risk matrix correspond to four risk levels (*level I* = low probability and low impact, *level IV* = high probability and high impact)

4. Computation of Risk Values

- Example using Excel

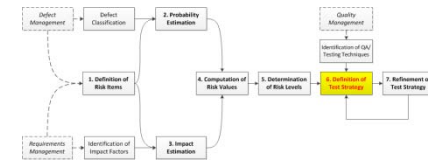


Component	Probability	Impact	Risk	Rank
Component A	5	134	669	4
Component B	14	158	2205	1
Component C	15	59	881	2
Component D	10	75	750	3
Component E	3	35	105	6
Component F	18	20	360	5



Name	I	II	III	IV
Component A			x	
Component B				x
Component C		x		
Component D		x		
Component E	x			
Component F		x		

6. Definition of Test Strategy

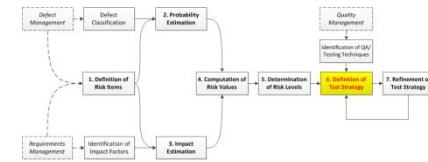


- *Test Strategy* – describes how testing is organized and performed on each risk level, i.e., with different rigorousness
 - by applying specific testing techniques (e.g., unit testing, use case testing, beta testing, reviews)
 - by applying techniques with more or less intensity (e.g., unit testing at the level of 100% branch coverage or use case testing for basic flows and/or alternative flows)
- Strategy includes mapping of techniques to components
- **Example:** Basis was a list of quality assurance and testing techniques; selection of techniques including coverage criteria for each risk level

testing + QA techniques

6. Definition of Test Strategy

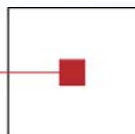
- Example using Excel template



Name	I	II	III	IV
Component A			x	
Component B				x
Component C		x		
Component D		x		
Component E	x			
Component F		x		

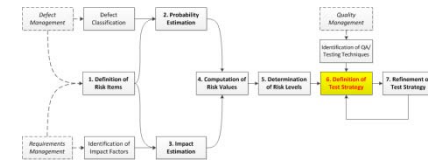


Quality Assurance Technique	I	II	III	IV	Short Description
Unit Testing	x	x	x	x	Testing of individual units in isolation; automated
Reviews				x	Reviews of documents and code
Automated System Testing			x	x	Testing via the GUI; automated
Exploratory Testing	x				Quick check via GUI; manually
Manual System Testing		x	x	x	Specified manual tests; use of testmanagement



6. Definition of Test Strategy

- Example using Excel template



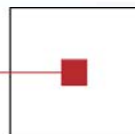
Quality Assurance Technique	I	II	III	IV
Unit Testing	x	x	x	x
Reviews				x
Automated System Testing			x	x
Exploratory Testing	x			
Manual System Testing		x	x	x



Name	I	II	III	IV
Component A			x	
Componnet B				x
Component C		x		
Component D		x		
Component E	x			
Component F		x		



Quality Assurance	Unit Testing	Reviews	Automated System Testing	Exploratory Testing	Manual System Testing			
						I	II	III
I	x			x				
II	x				x			
III	x		x		x			
Component	I	II	III	IV	x	x	x	x
Component A			x		x		x	x
Componnet B				x	x	x	x	x
Component C		x			x			x
Component D		x			x			x
Component E	x				x		x	
Component F		x			x			x



TED – Your testing and QM activities?



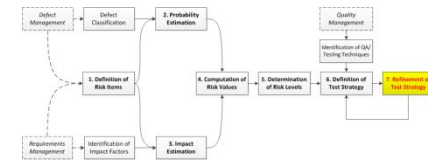
- What testing activities are you doing/planning to do risk-based?
- What QM activities are you doing/planning to do risk-based?

→ <http://mfelderer.at/profes16rbt>

- TED-6 Quality Assurance



7. Refinement of Test Strategy



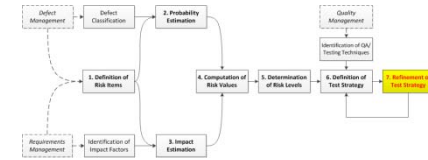
- *Refinement of Test Strategy* – develop implementation of test strategy
 - Define details about how to apply the specified techniques for each individual component
 - Balance the planned overall test budget with estimated effort under the light of the risk exposure

Create feedback loop

- **Example:** Quick, bottom-up effort estimation to cross-check that testing approaches are compatible with available time and resources
 - Technical and organizational details for applying the specified techniques to a concrete software component
 - Component lead developer makes estimate for each intersection point
 - Subtotals and grand total compared to availability of personnel and planned testing budgets

7. Refinement of Test Strategy

- Example using Excel template



				Quality Assurance	Unit Testing	Reviews	Automated System Testing	Exploratory Testing	Manual System Testing				
				I	x			x					
				II	x				x				
				III	x		x		x				
Component	I	II	III	IV	x	x	x		x				
Component A			x										
Component B				x									
Component C		x											
Component D		x											
Component E	x												
Component F		x											

total effort in hours/year

TED – Which steps do you take?



- “All testing is risk-based” – James Bach
- What steps of Risk-Based Testing do you already do?

→ <http://mfelderer.at/profes16rbt>

- TED-7 Steps of the Risk-based Testing Process



Overview of the Tutorial

- Introduction and Background
 - Software testing
 - Risk and Quality
 - Probability and Impact
- Benefits of Risk-Based Testing
- Risk-Based Testing Process
 - Estimation of Probability and Impact
 - Risk Value and Risk Levels
 - Test Strategy Development & Refinement
- Results and Lessons Learned

Basic Publication

Ramler, R., Felderer, M.: A Process for Risk-Based Test Strategy Development and Its Industrial Evaluation. 16th International Conference on Product-Focused Software Process Improvement. Springer, 2015



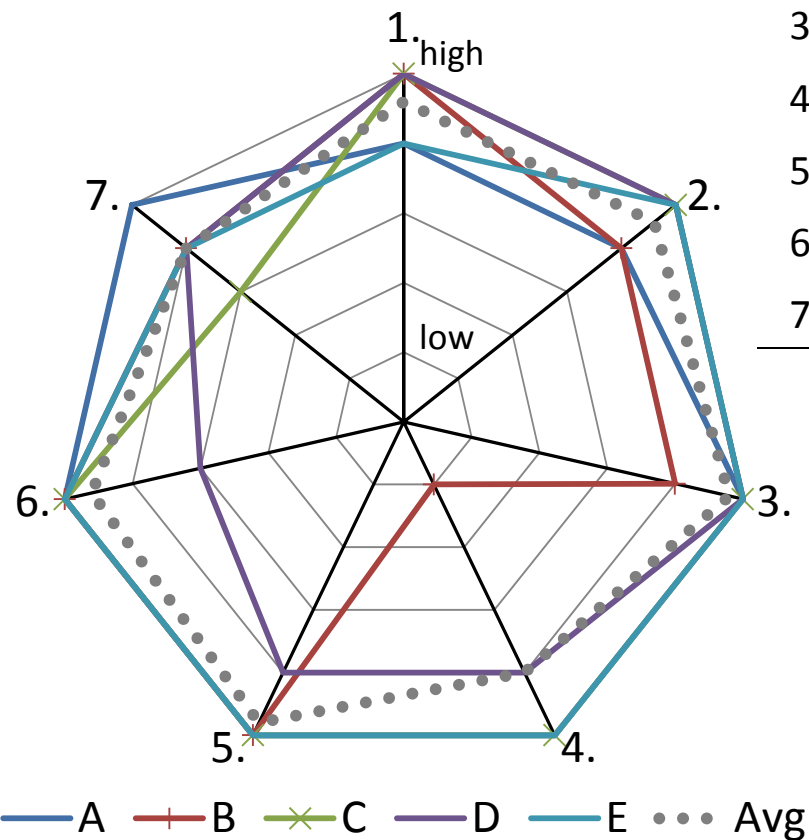
The 16th International Conference on
Product-Focused Software Process Improvement

Profes 2015

Evaluation: Case Companies

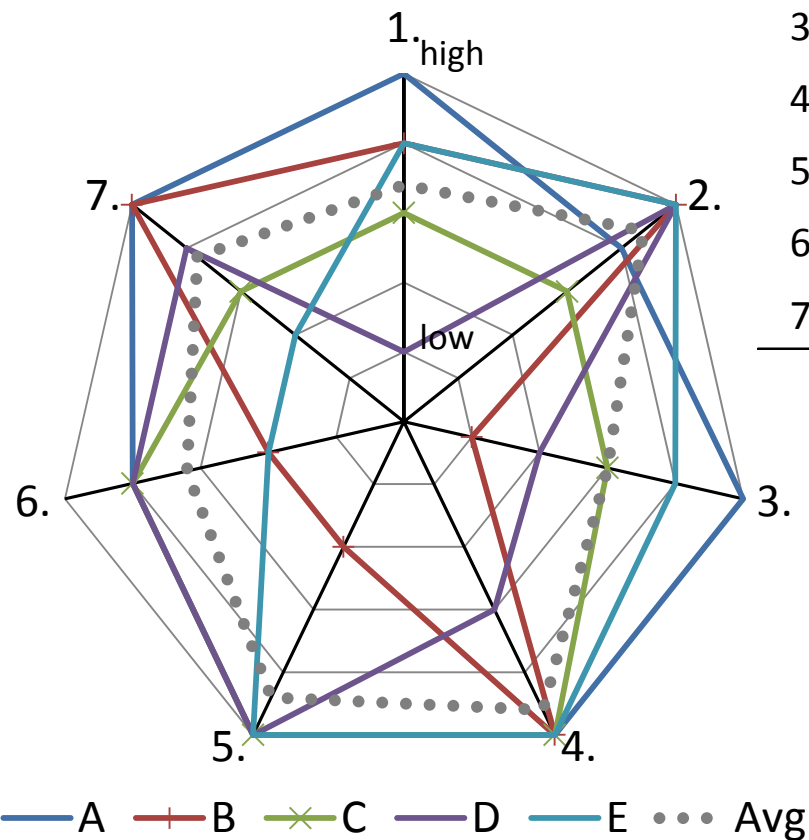
	Case A	Case B	Case C	Case D	Case E
Domain	ERP software	Access systems	Document management	Training and recruitment	Payment systems
Core business	Software product and service	Hardware incl. embedded software	Software product and custom development	Service including software platform and operation	Solution development incl. software and hardware
Employees	15	40	10	40	15
Software Releases	2 to 4 releases per year; service releases on demand	Adjusted to hardware product cycles (years)	New releases every one and four weeks	On demand	Delivery as custom projects

Evaluation: Perceived Usefulness



Usefulness of ...	A	B	C	D	E	Avg	sdev
1. Definition of Risk Items	2	1	1	1	2	1.4	0.49
2. Probability Estimation	2	2	1	1	1	1.4	0.49
3. Impact Estimation	1	2	1	1	1	1.2	0.40
4. Computation of Risk Values	1	5	1	2	1	2.0	1.55
5. Determination of Risk Levels	1	1	1	2	1	1.2	0.40
6. Definition of Test Strategy	1	1	1	3	1	1.4	0.80
7. Refinement of Test Strategy	1	2	3	2	2	2.0	0.63

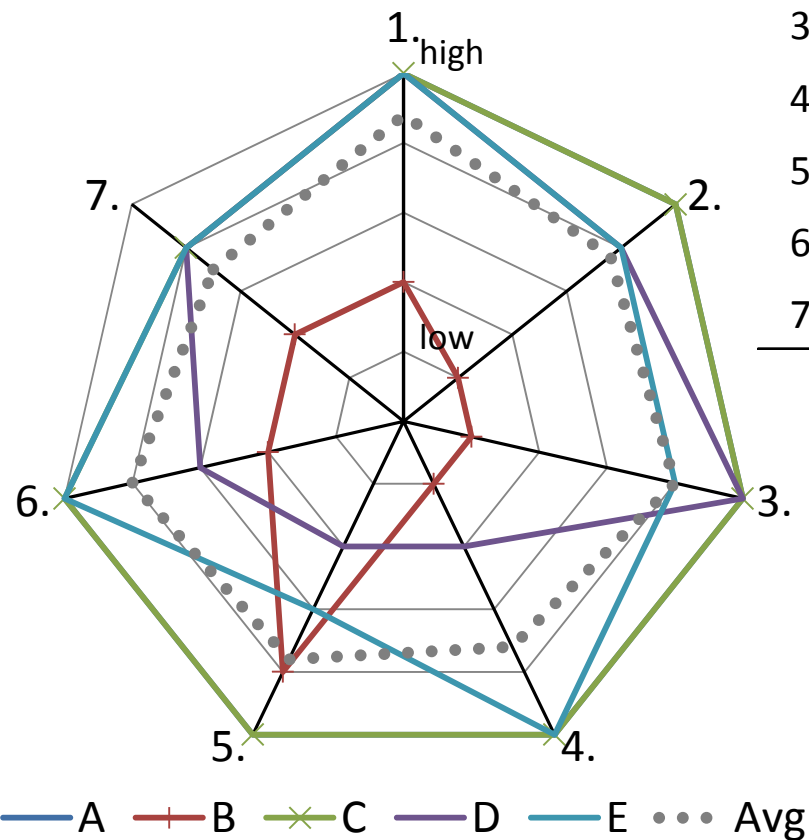
Evaluation: Perceived Ease of Use



Ease of Use of ...	A	B	C	D	E	Avg	sdev
1. Definition of Risk Items	1	2	3	5	2	2.6	1.36
2. Probability Estimation	2	1	3	1	1	1.6	0.80
3. Impact Estimation	1	5	3	4	2	3.0	1.41
4. Computation of Risk Values	1	1	1	3	1	1.4	0.80
5. Determination of Risk Levels	1	4	1	1	1	1.6	1.20
6. Definition of Test Strategy	2	4	2	2	4	2.8	0.98
7. Refinement of Test Strategy	1	1	3	2	4	2.2	1.17

Evaluation: Perceived Representativeness

Representativeness of ...	A	B	C	D	E	Avg	sdev
1. Definition of Risk Items	1	4	1	1	1	1.6	1.20
2. Probability Estimation	1	5	1	2	2	2.2	1.47
3. Impact Estimation	1	5	1	1	2	2.0	1.55
4. Computation of Risk Values	1	5	1	4	1	2.4	1.74
5. Determination of Risk Levels	1	2	1	4	3	2.2	1.17
6. Definition of Test Strategy	1	4	1	3	1	2.0	1.26
7. Refinement of Test Strategy		4	2	2	2	2.5	0.87



Experiences from Application



1. Apply approach to a **representative amount of data** from the very beginning
2. **Definition of risk items is crucial** and should take available data and risk assessments into account
3. **Impact estimation more tricky** than probability estimation
4. **Refine** risk levels and assigned test strategies based on **expert and common knowledge**
5. Risk-based test strategy useful for graded application of arbitrary **software quality assurance techniques**
6. **Prioritization of test cases** and **motivation for enforcement of existing techniques** good starting points for implementation

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