IBM Software Group

Agile and Traceability

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Agenda

- On the importance of Traceability
- On the other hand …. Agile!
- Matching Traceability with the Agile Lifestyle

Traceability

- ***Traceability*** *means that a navigable relation exists between all related project data, without regard to the data's location (within work products) or format*
- Forward Traceability
  - Data created earlier in the process can be navigated from to related (often derived) data produced later in the process
  - Examples:
    - Requirement → Design; Design → Implementation; Requirement → Test Case
- Backward Traceability
  - Data created later in the process can be navigated from to related (often source) data produced earlier in the process
  - Examples:
    - Design -> Requirement; Test Case → Requirement; Implementation → Design

Why Traceability?

- Impact Analysis
  - If I change this datum, what other project data is affected and must also be modified?
  - If I change this datum, what is the cost and effort required to make all relevant changes?
- Completeness Assessment
  - Have I (demonstrably) realized each datum?
  - E.g. Safety Objective, Requirement or design element
- Justification
  - Can I show why this data is present?
  - E.g. Is this design element present to meet a requirement?
- Consistency Evidence
  - Are the data within different aspects of the project data consistent?
  - E.g. Are the requirements consistent with the safety assessment? Does the implementation meet the design?
- Compliance Evidence
  - Does the data comply with internal and external standards
  - E.g. QA Records show process was followed (audit) or work product is well-formed (review)
- Required for Safety Critical – High Reliability – High Security systems
  - Safety standards require detailed traceability
  - E.g. DO-178 (Avionics), EN 50128 (Rail), IEC 62304 (Medical)

In Other Words, Traceability

- Helps ensure requirements are met
- Helps ensure requirements are verified
- Lowers project risk
- Creates an audit trail
- Ensure consistency among work products
- Helps manage consistency over the long term

		Design / Implementation Elements				
		D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
Requirements	R1	x				x
	R2					
	R3		x			
	R4				x	

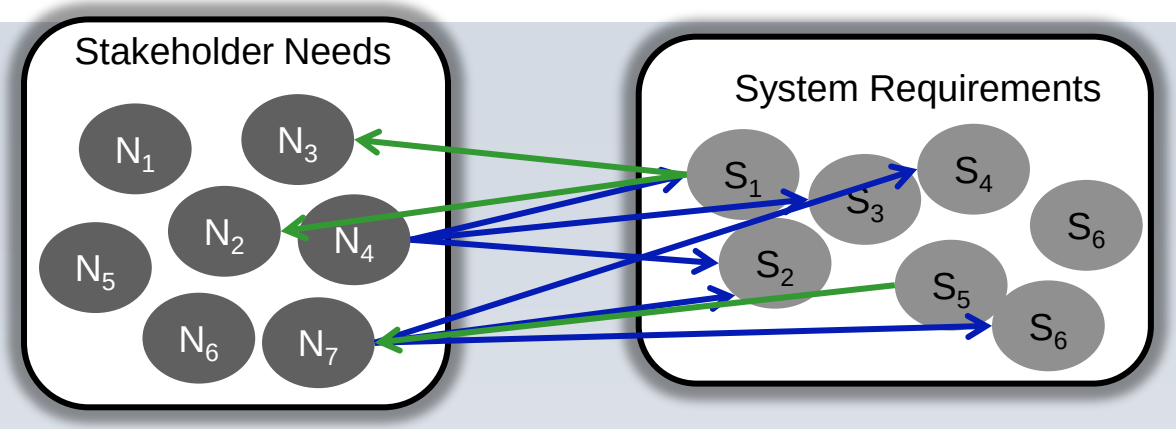
Unimplemented requirement

Gold plating?

Why not Traceability

- Seen as low priority, low value work
- Arduous to create and maintain (esp without tools)
- Difficult to verify
- Work products may not be complete enough to support traceability
- May be difficult to demonstrate ROI

Traceability is data-centric not document-centric



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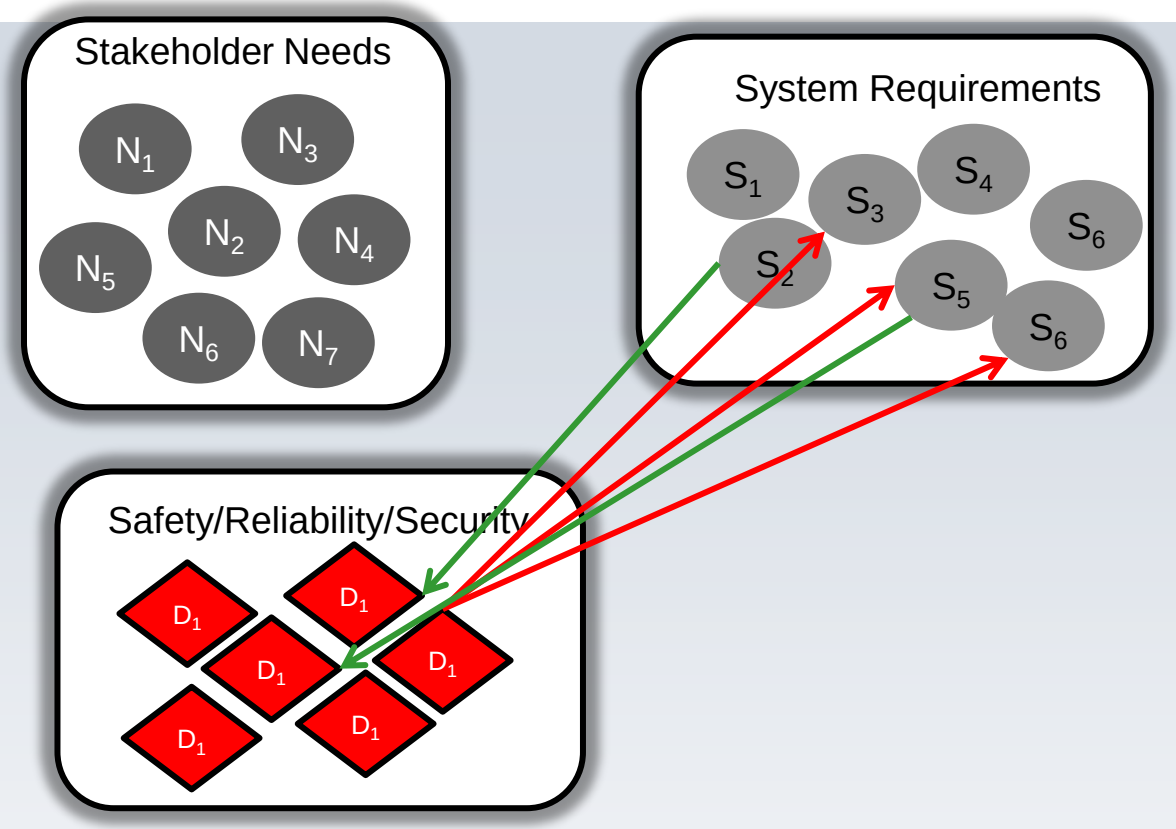

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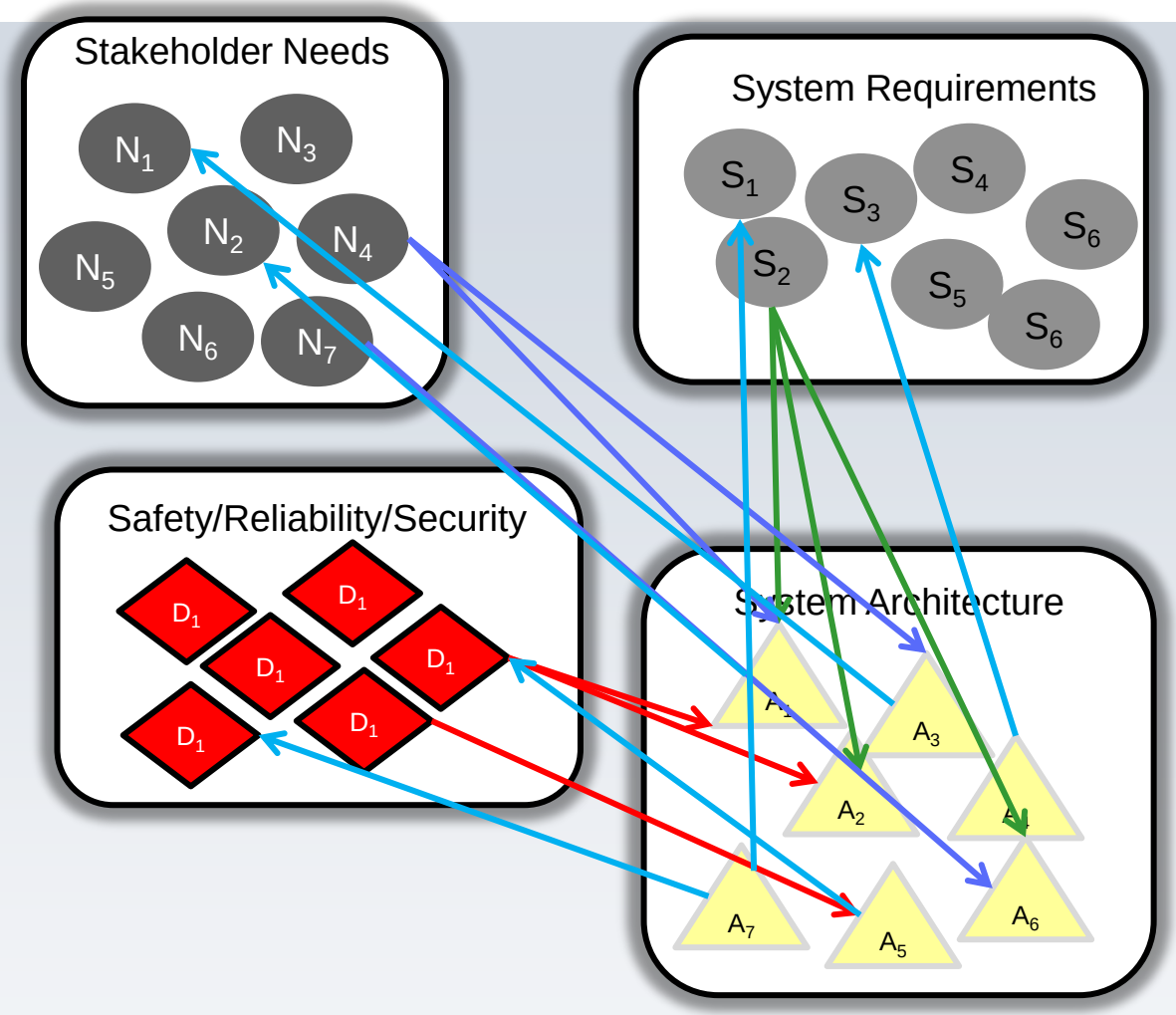

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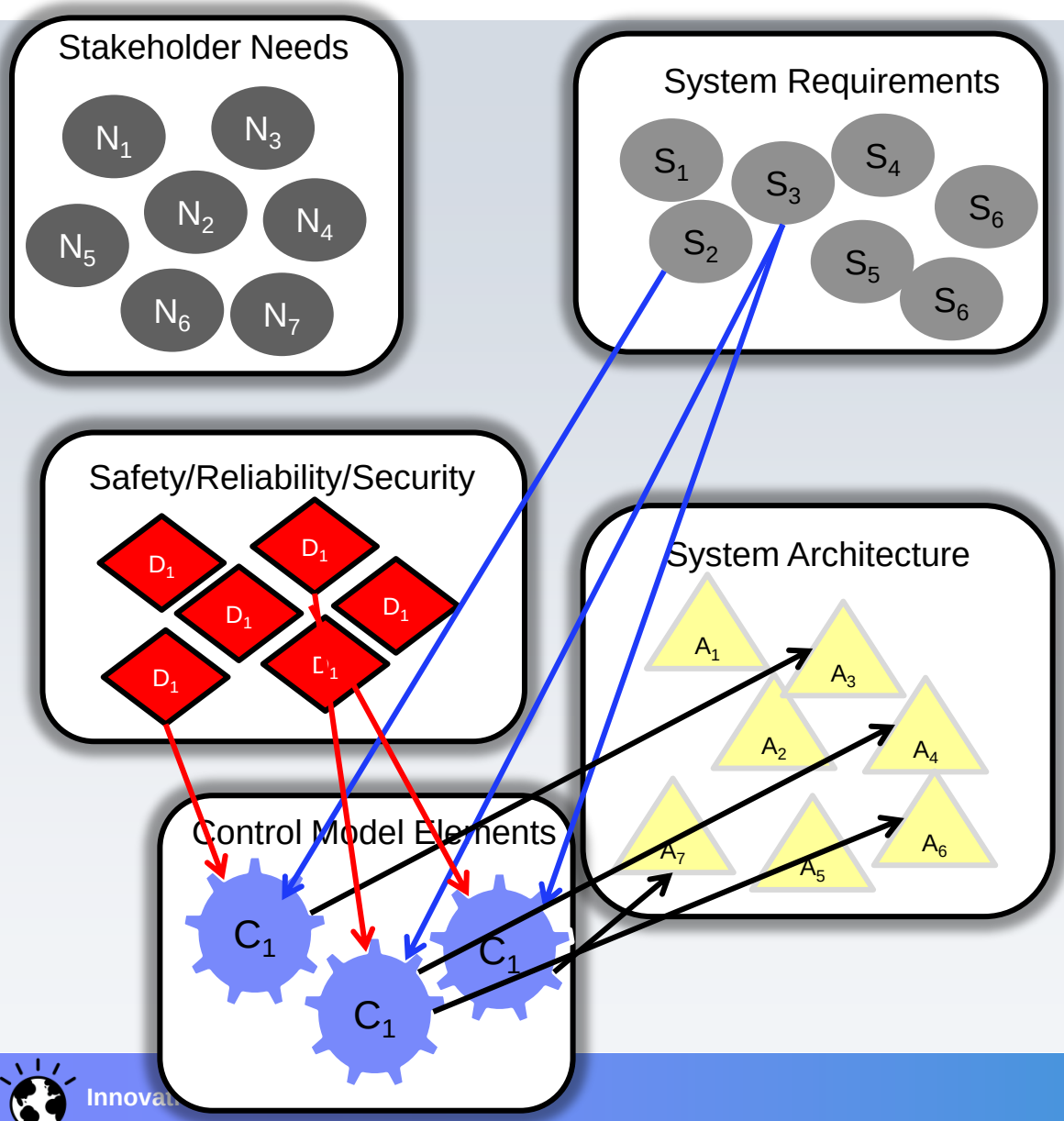

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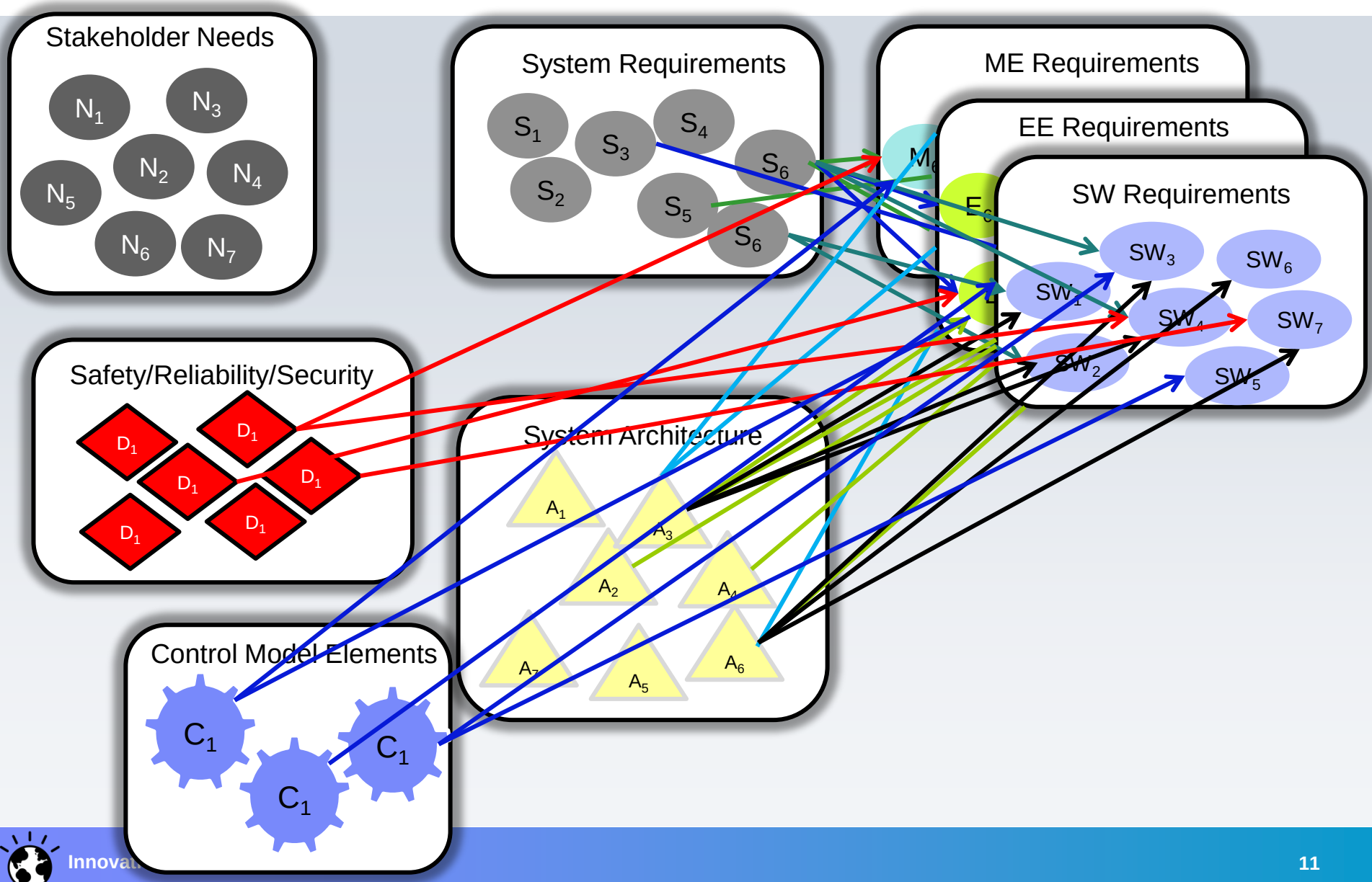

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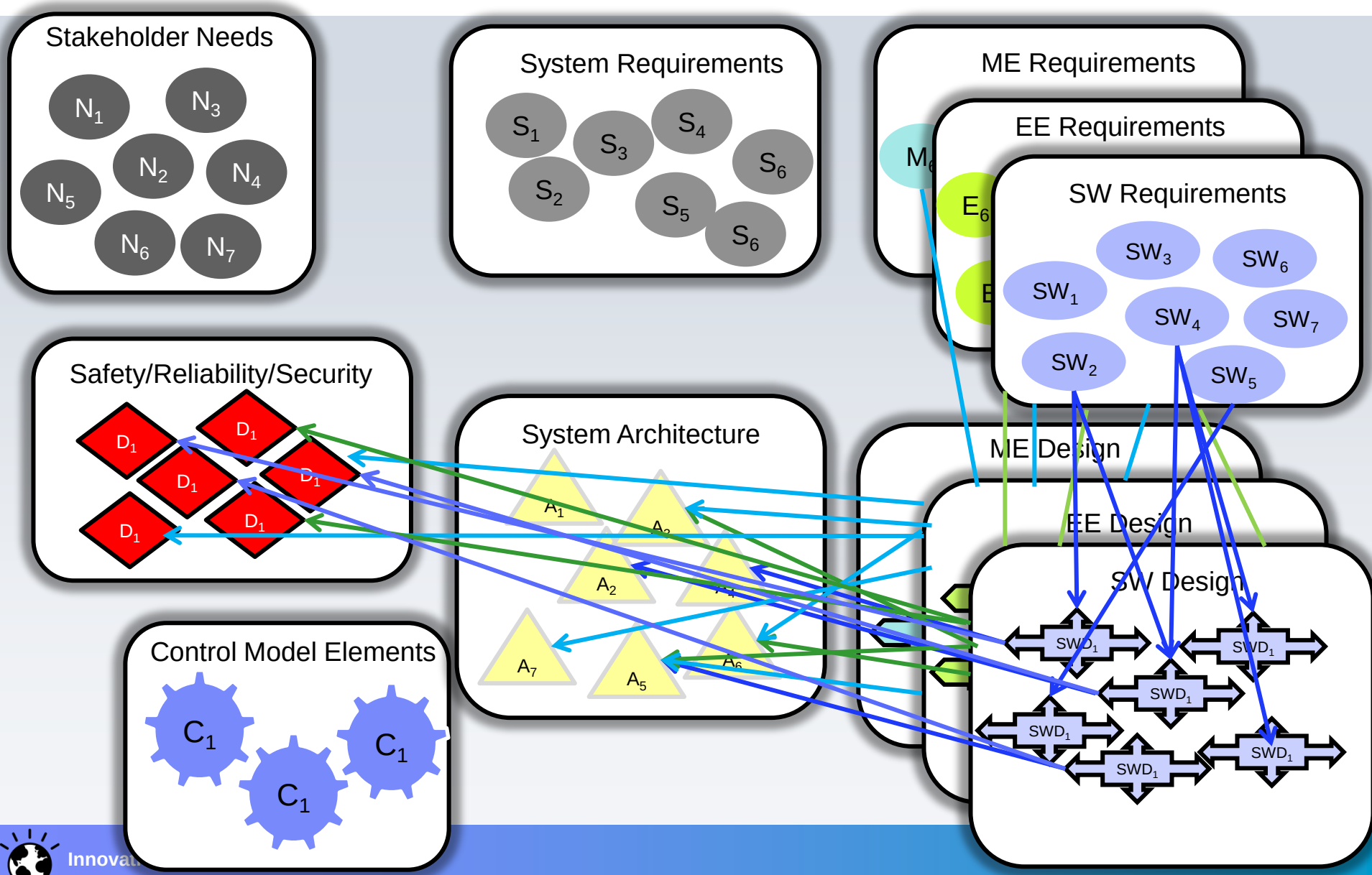

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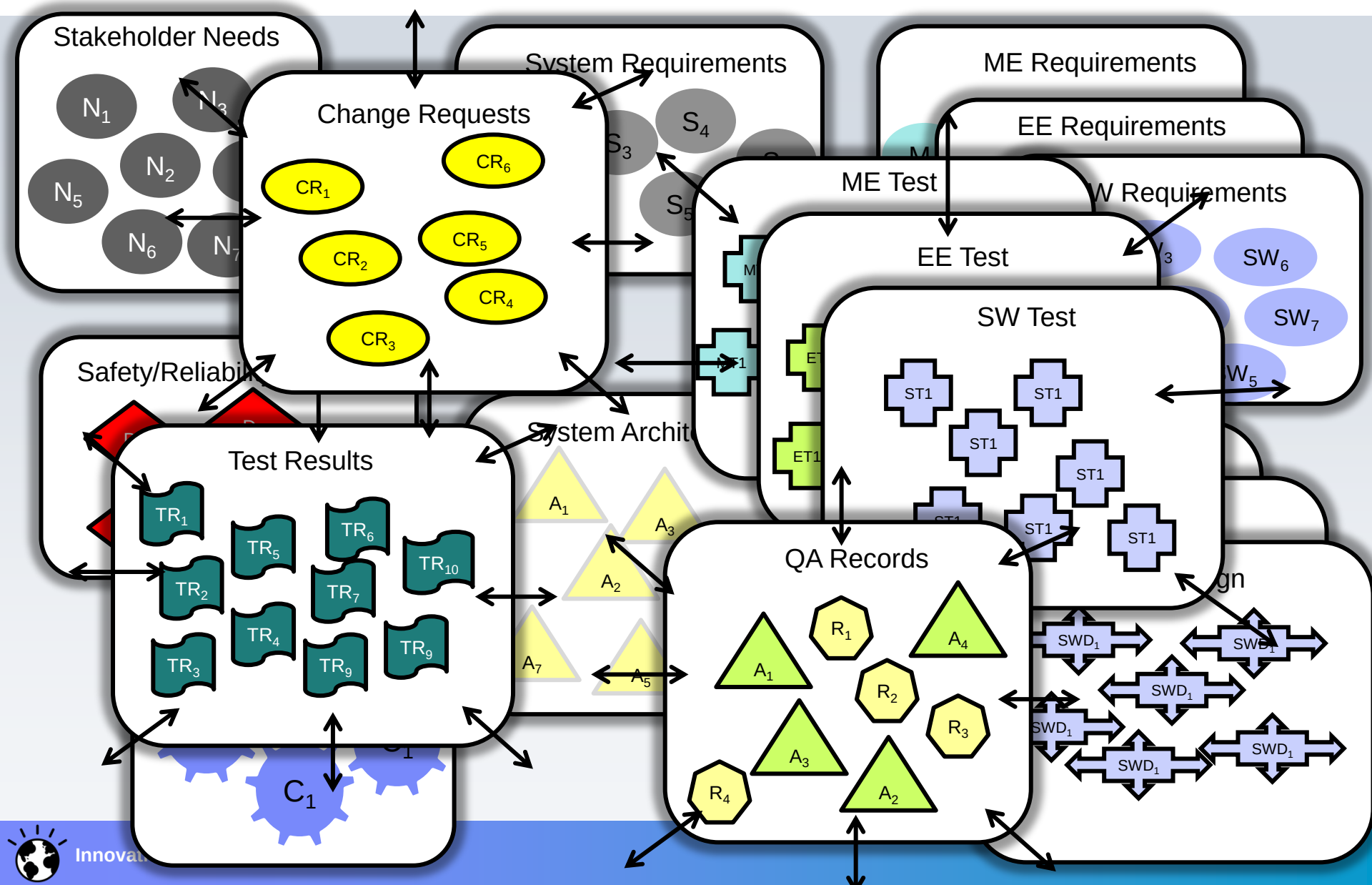


Lifecycle Data Trace Metamatrix

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Stakeholder Requirements		R			R					R				o	S	R	
2	System Requirements			R	o	S	R	R			o	R	R	S	S	S	R	R
3	Subsystem Requirements				R	S	R	R	R	S	o	R	R	S	S	S		R
4	SW/EE/ME Requirements					S	R	R	R	S	o	R	o	R	S	S		R
5	Dependability analyses						S	S	S	S	o	S	S	o	S	S	o	S
6	System Architecture							R	R	o		R	R		S	S		R
7	Control Model(s)								R	o	o	R	R	R	S	S		R
8	SW/EE/ME Design[1]									R		R	R	R	S	S		R
9	SW/EE/ME Implementation[1]										o	R	R	R	S	S		R
10	Validation Tests											R					R	
11	System Verification Tests												o	o	S	S		R
12	Component/Integration Tests													o	S	S		R
13	SW/EE/ME Tests														S	S		R
14	QA Records															S	S	S
15	CM Index																S	S
16	Validation Test Results																	
17	Verification Test Results[2]																	

[1] These are usually in separate work products, so this is really multiple items
[2] Tests occur at unit, component, integration, and system levels; again multiple items

Notation	Interpretation
R	Required for reliable, repeatable system development
S	Required for safety critical / high reliability / high security
o	Optional

How Much Traceability?

- The Standards argument
  - Some standard explicitly define the required level of traceability
  - Example:
    - DO-178A required that each requirement was traced to the set of computer op codes that realized it (realization) and that each op code could be shown to be there to at least partially meet a requirement
    - With DO-178B/C, requirements are mapped to a set of source language statements and each source statement must trace back to one or more requirements (provided the set of used source statement → op code are fully verified elsewhere)

How Much Traceability?

- The cost per probe argument
  - Navigating a trace link has two components: manual searching about (M) after the automated link gets you close to the desired data element
  - Creating and maintaining a trace link has a cost (C) that is incurred when the link is created or modified
  - The total cost for traceability is

$$Total\ Cost = \sum_{total\ links} C + \sum_{Accesses} M$$

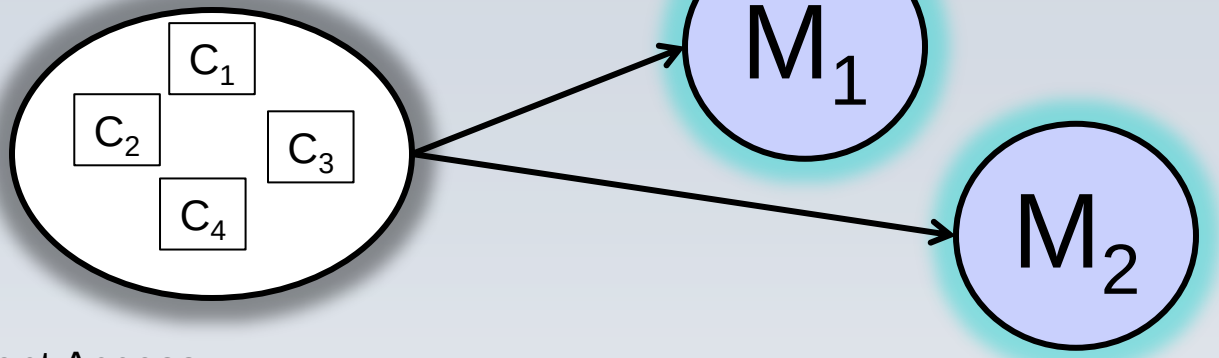
  - Two ways to minimize Total Cost:
    - If you will access the links infrequently, then having a larger access cost per query (M) minimizes total cost when you spend less effort creating detailed traceability (lower C)
    - If you will access the links frequently, it makes economic sense to spend more time creating and managing the links (higher C) in order to minimize the time spent manually searching (lower M)

How Much Traceability?

Case 1: Infrequent Access

Example: Trace to source file

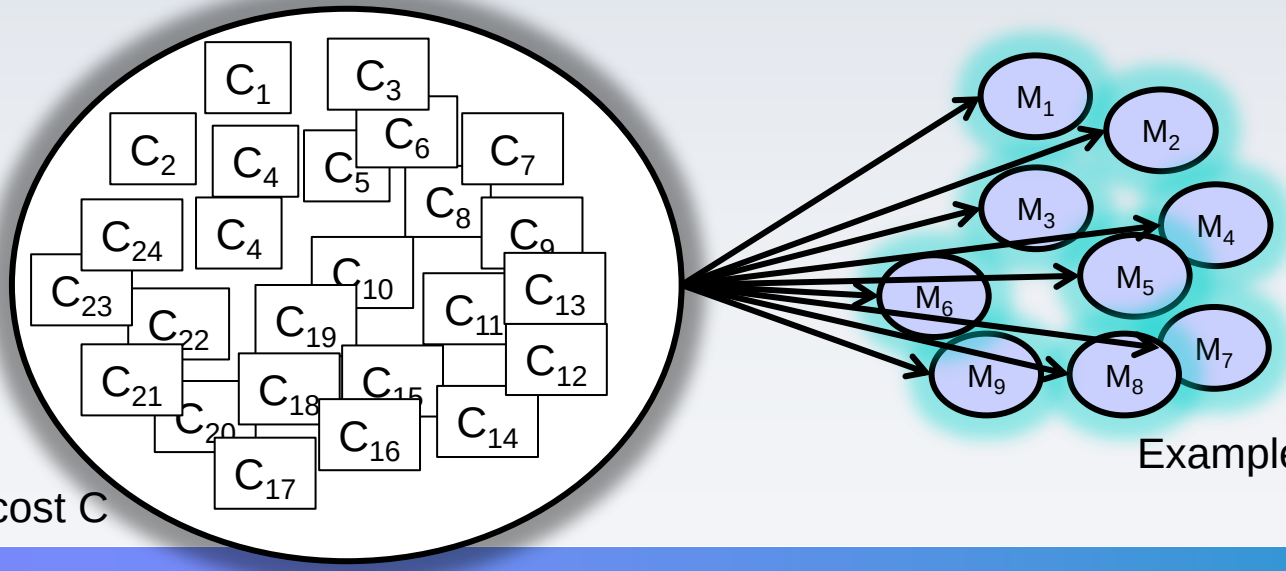
Low cost C



High cost M

Case 2: Frequent Access

Why? Frequent requirements change; high defect density (so lots of maintenance)



Low cost M

Example: Trace to source line(s)

High cost C

Common Levels of Traceability

- Coarse (Low C, very high M)
  - Map work products
    - Requirement Spec → Design Document
    - Design Document → Directory of Source Files
    - Requirements Spec → Test Plan → Test Suite

Common Levels of Traceability

- Medium (Moderate C, Moderate M)
  - Map large scale elements
    - Requirement (*) → Use case (1)
    - Use Case (1) → Large design elements (*) || Design Diagram (1)
    - Design Element (1) -> Class, Function, or Data Structure (*)
    - Requirement (1) → Test Case (*)

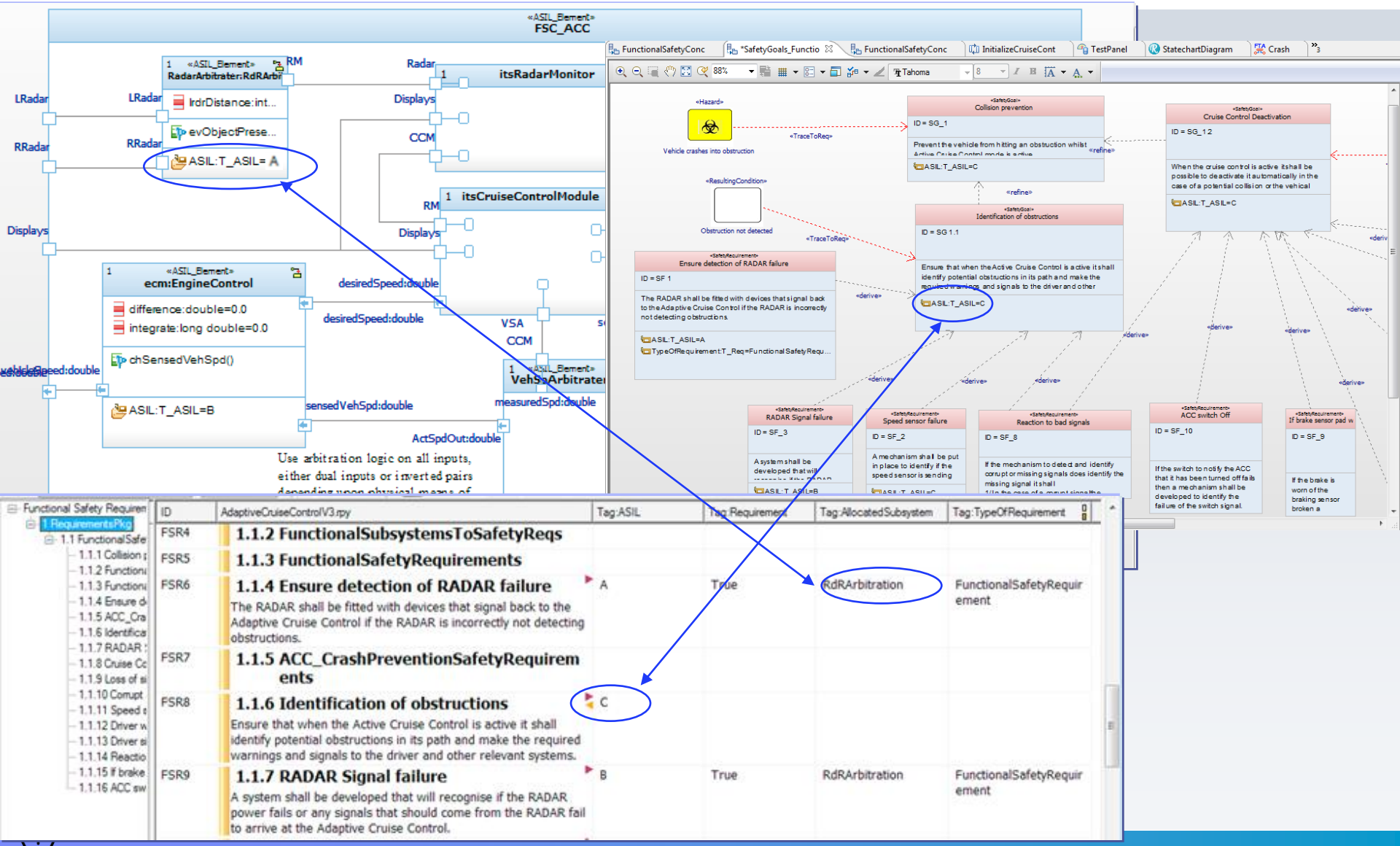
Common Levels of Traceability

- Medium High (Moderate C, Moderate M, Safety Criticality Moderate)
  - Map large scale elements
    - Requirement (*) → Use case (1)
    - Requirement (*) → System function (use case operation/event reception, flow property)(*)
    - Use Case (1) → Large design elements (*) || Design Diagram (1)
    - Design Element (1) -> Class, Function, or Data Structure (*)
    - Requirement (1) → Test Case (*)

Common Levels of Traceability

- Fine (High C, low M, Safety Criticality High)
  - Map to small scale elements
    - Requirement (*) → Use case (1)
    - Requirement (*) → Design Element (*)
    - Requirement (*) → Class or Function in source code (*) (or smaller)
    - Requirement (1) → Test Case(*)
    - Test Case (*) → Design Element (1)
    - Test Case (*) → Class or Function in source code (*) (or smaller)

What does traceability look like?



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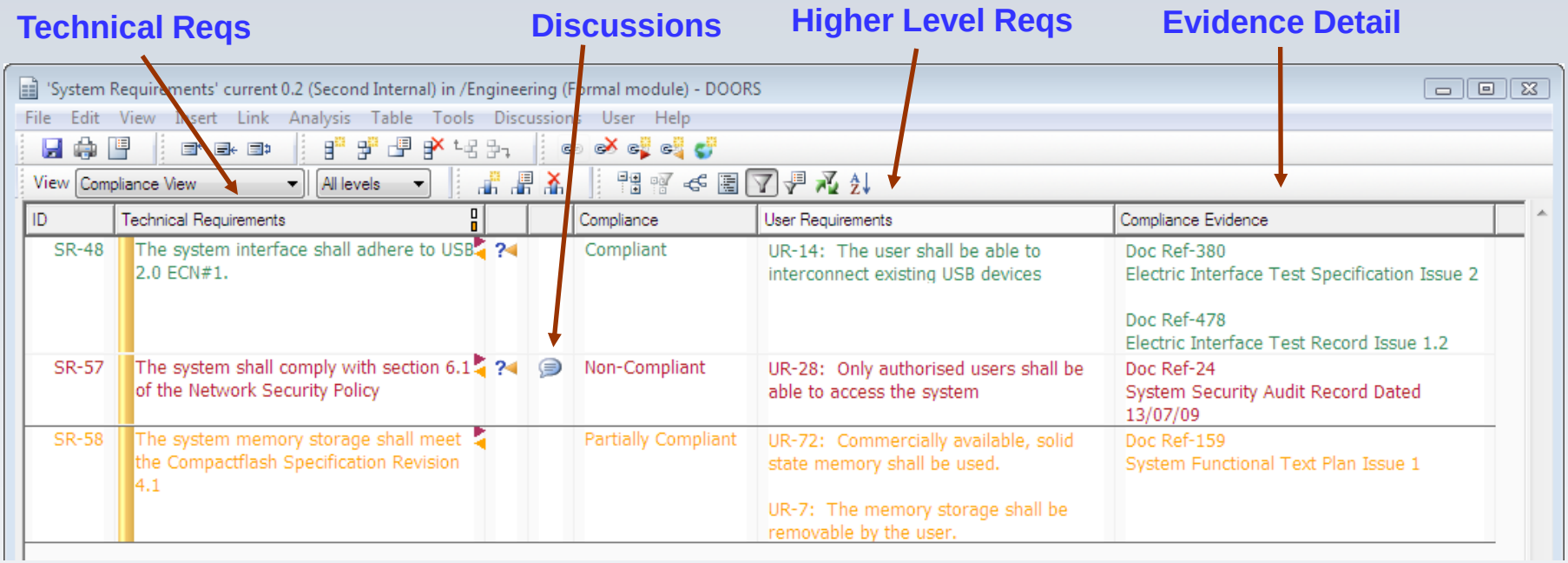
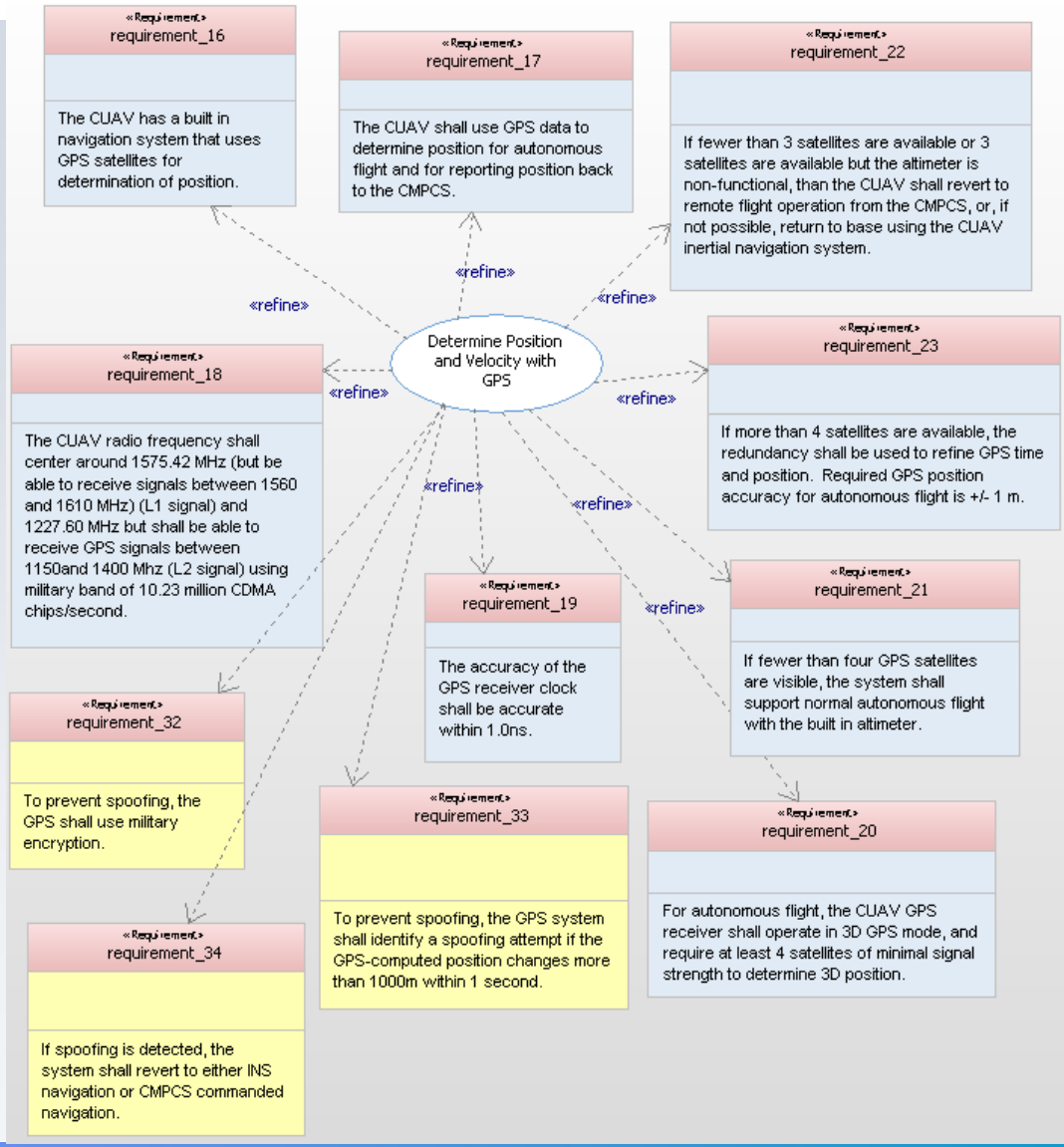


Traceability in Models

- Traceability is modeled in UML with the dependency relation «trace»
- SysML adds specialized kinds
  - «satisfy»
  - «realize»
  - «verify»



Traceability in Models

- Trace links can be shown in tabular form in Rational Rhapsody as well

To: Requirement **Scope:** RequirementsPkg

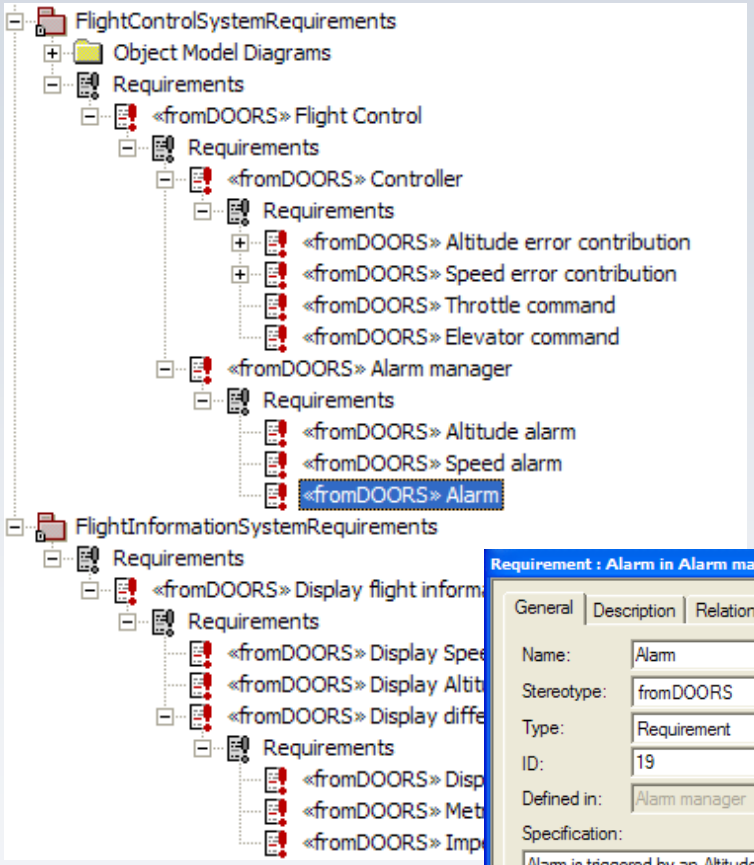
From: UseCase **Scope:** RequirementsPkg

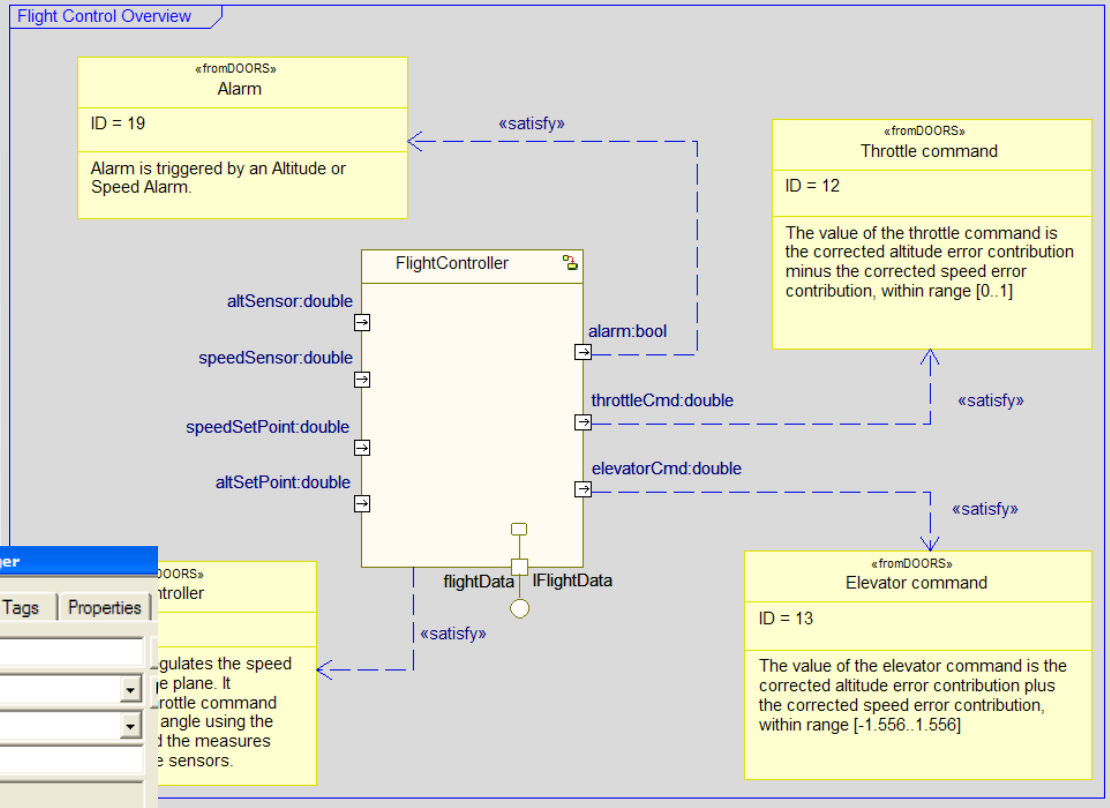
	REQ_pt1	REQ_pt2	REQ_pt3	REQ_pt4	REQ_pt5	REQ_pt6	REQ_pt7	REQ_pt8	REQ_b1
Cargo Transport		REQ_pt2	REQ_pt3		REQ_pt5	REQ_pt6	REQ_pt7		REQ_b1
Personnel Transport	REQ_pt1	REQ_pt2	REQ_pt3	REQ_pt4	REQ_pt5	REQ_pt6	REQ_pt7	REQ_pt8	
Transport									
Biomaterials Transport									
Detoxification Submode				REQ_pt4		REQ_pt6		REQ_pt8	
Biofilter Submode						REQ_pt6		REQ_pt8	
Targetting									
Scanning									
Pattern Storage									
Transmission									
Configure System									
Lifesign Scanning									
Filtering									
Configure Biofilter									
Configure Hazadous Materials Filter									
Configure Operational Preferences									
Install and Initalize System									
Diagnostics and Built In Test									

Figure 6.19 *Requirements Traceability Matrix*

Rational DOORS is closely linked with Rational Rhapsody

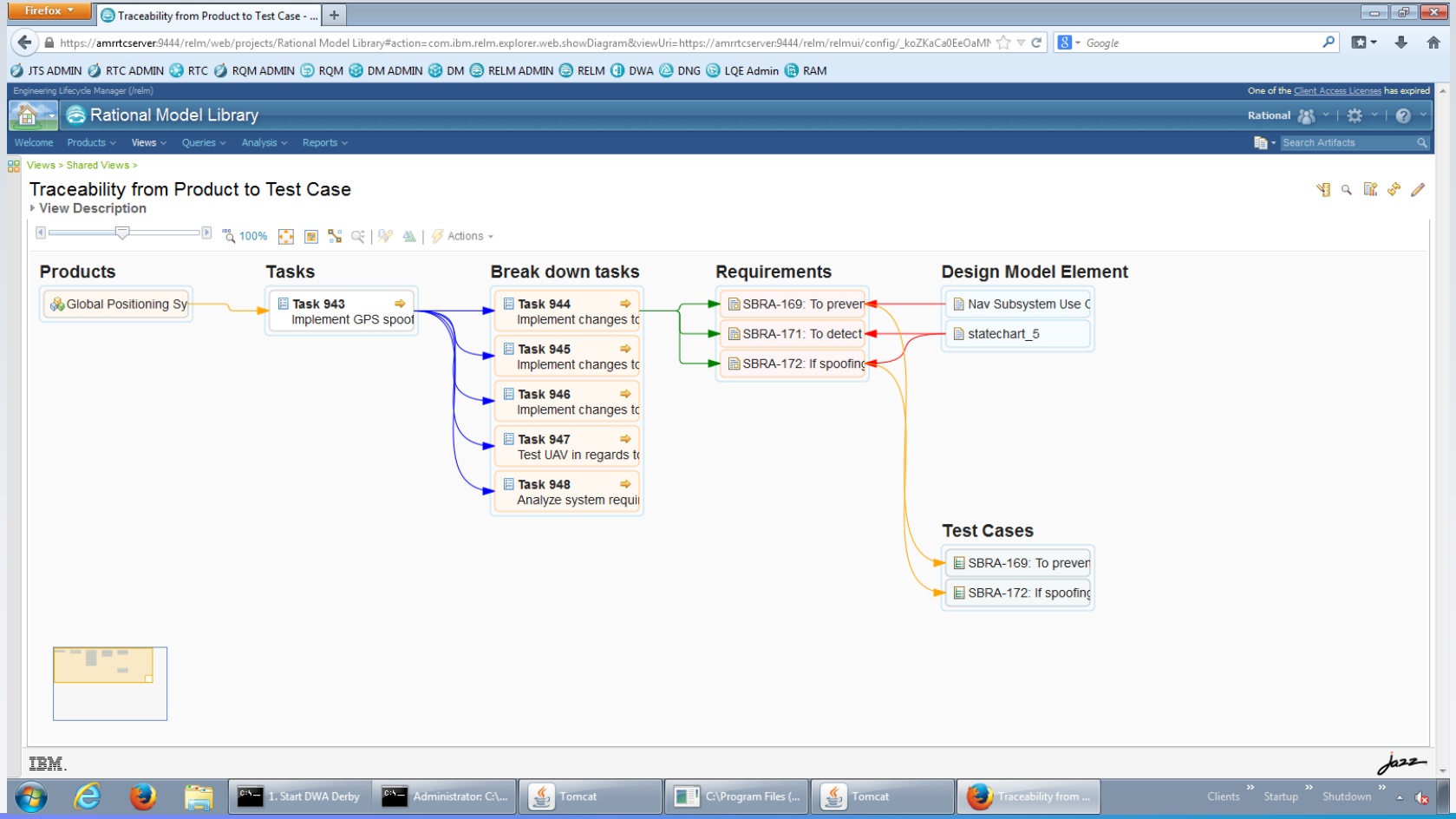
- Rational Rhapsody can import or reference requirements from Rational DOORS
- Trace links in Rhapsody can be pushed out to DOORS



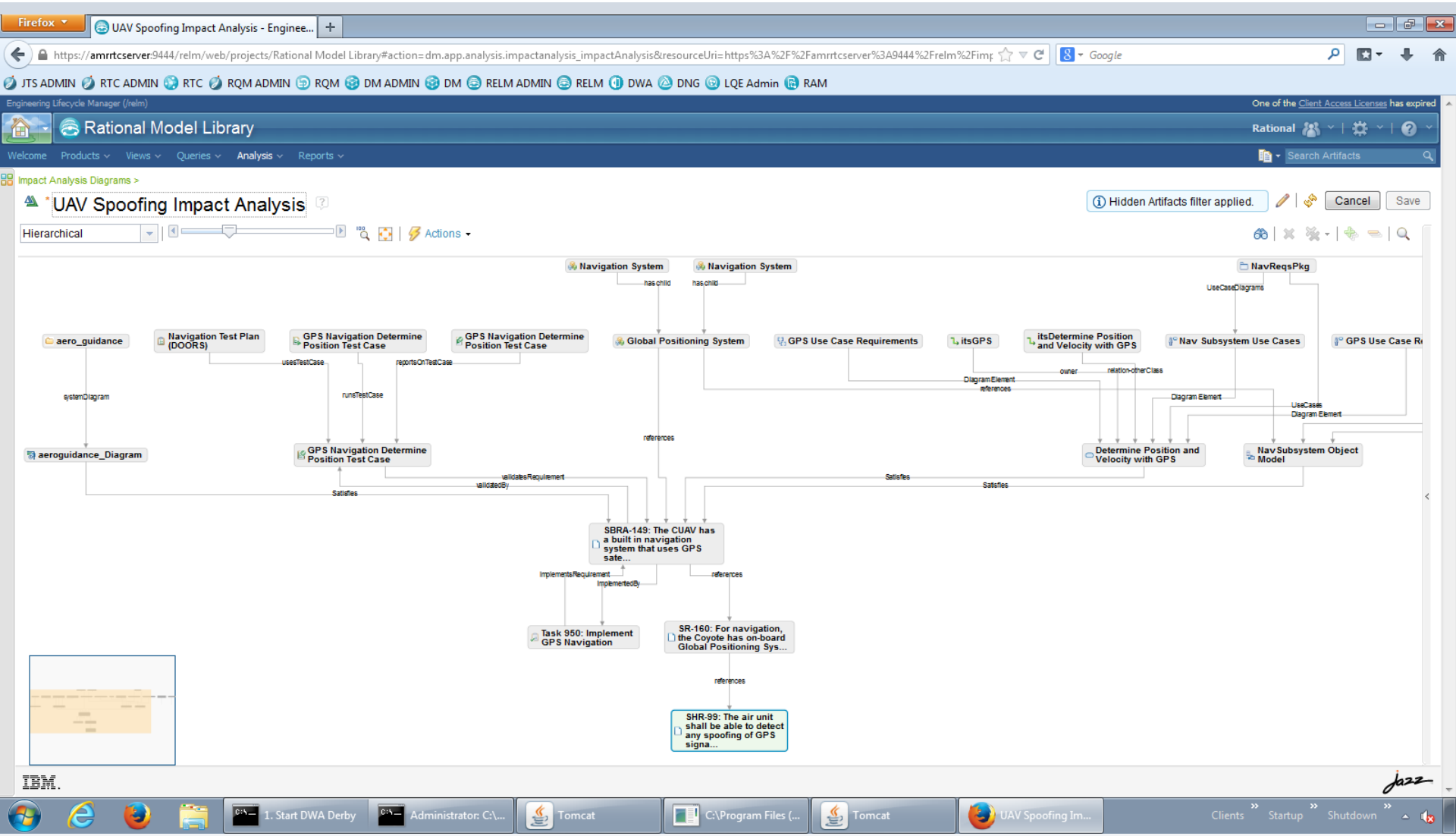


Rational Engineering Lifecycle Manager (RELM)

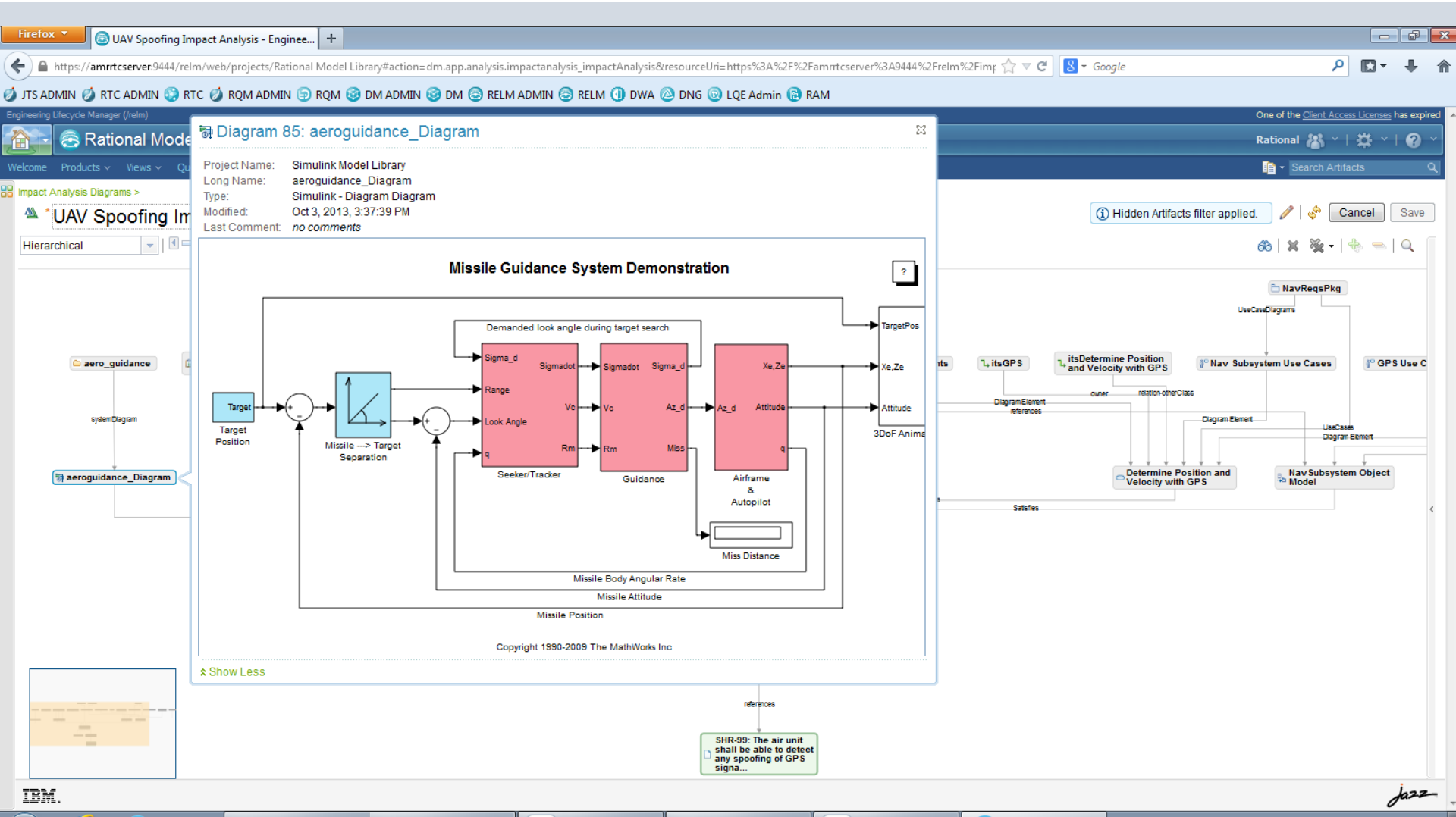
- RELM is a tool meant to aggregate linked engineering data from a variety of sources to support traceability, impact analysis, etc. including both IBM and non-IBM tools with pre-defined and user-defined views



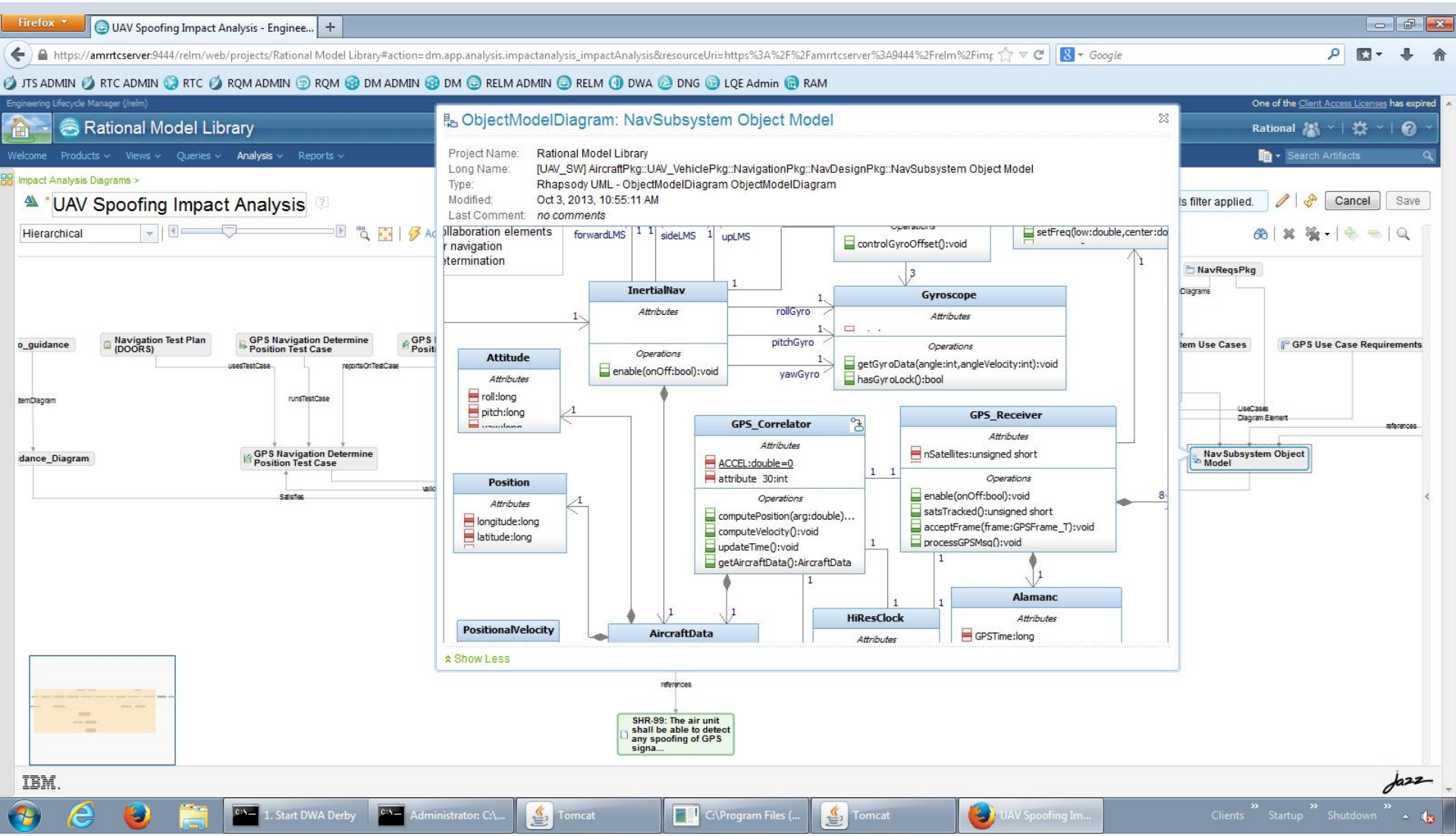
Traceability with RELM



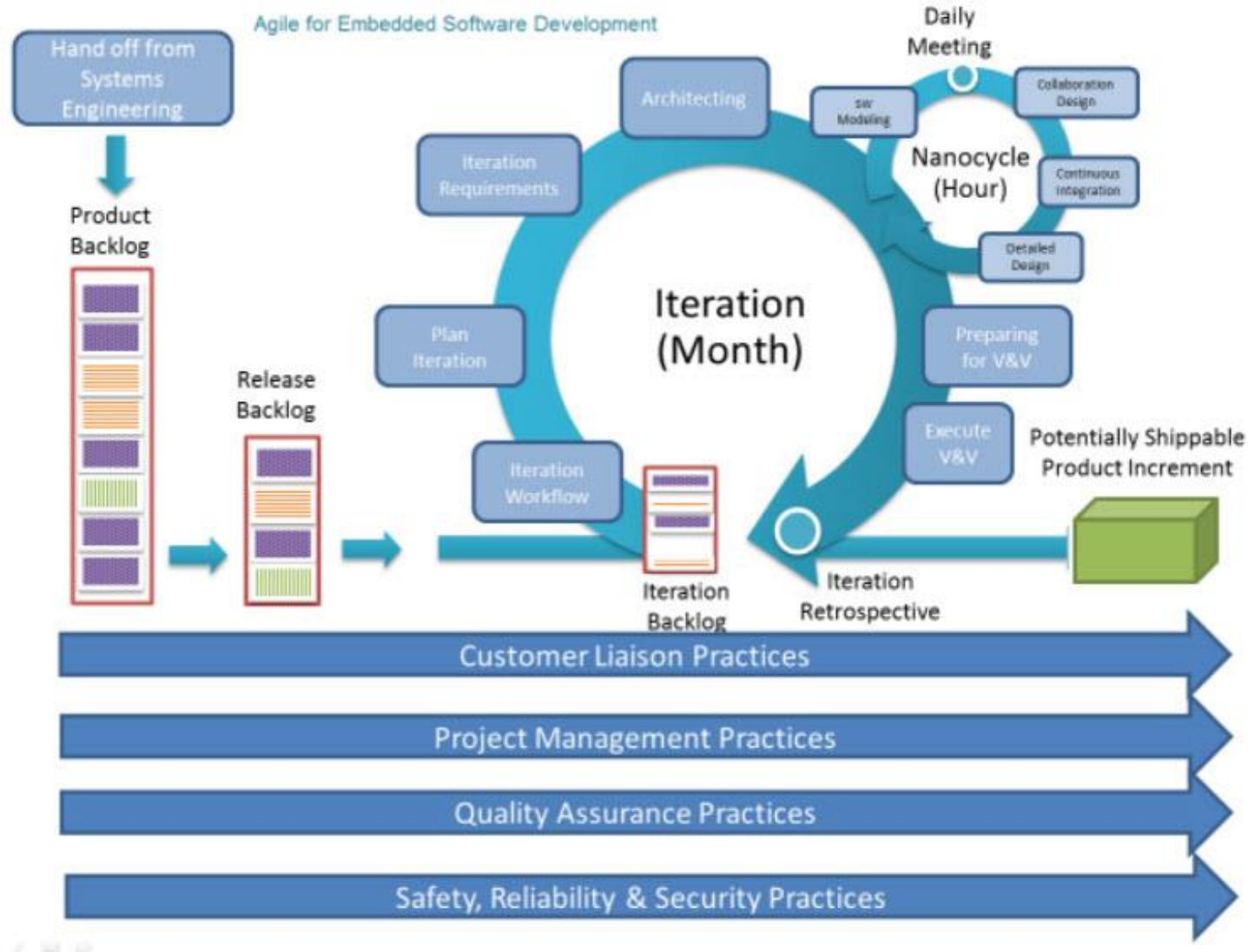
Traceability with RELM



Traceability with RELM



Fitting Traceability into the Agile Lifestyle



What does the Agile literature say about traceability?

Scott Ambler (http://www.agilemodeling.com/essays/agileRequirementsBestPractices.htm)

7. Your Goal is To Effectively Implement Requirements, Not Document Them

Too many projects are crushed by the overhead required to develop and maintain comprehensive documentation and traceability between it. Take an agile approach to documentation and keep it lean and effective. The most effective documentation is just barely good enough for the job at hand. By doing this, you can focus more of your energy on building working software, and isn't that what you're really being paid to do?

William Gens (http://www.agileconnection.com/interview/traceabilitys-priceless-role-agile-interview-william-gens)

Noel: How does well executed traceability benefit project management specifically?

William: It saves time an
those artifacts are, it pro
review the requirements,
the PM with exact directi
loosely defined requirem
eavesdropping, then the
success of that specific r
have a specific footprint

In general, traceability isn't discussed by Agilistas but when it is, it is limited in scope to requirements ←→test

No guidance is given on *how* to do it nor *when* to do it

http://sqa.stackexch

Is there traceability matrix in agile?

4

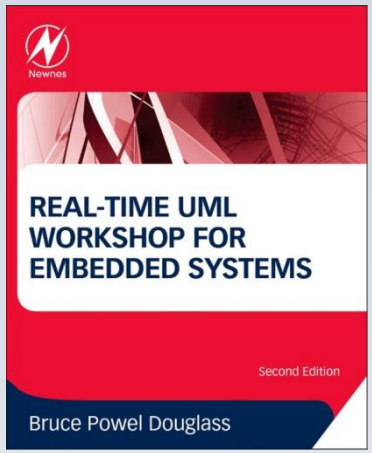
1

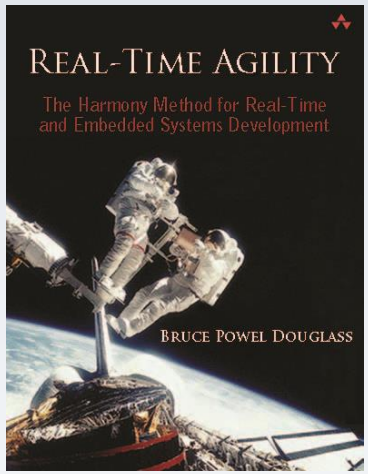
In traceability matrix the links between requirements and tests can help answer:

- Which requirements is almost never tested, and which is tested extremely often?
- Will a change to a particular requirement cause revisions to a huge number of tests in the system?

In agile there are no requirements but stories, so traceability matrix does not exist in traditional sense. Well, stories describe requirements but when you complete story, you close it and then you close an iteration and forget about that story. It is done, accepted, and closed. So maybe this is a reason, why in software we used for planning and tracking of iteration and tests there is no such matrix.

What does the Agile literature say about traceability?





- Discusses traceability with respect to requirements, safety analysis, architecture, design and test

Establishing Traceability to the Stakeholder Requirements and Use Cases

Traceability is useful for both change impact analysis and to demonstrate that a system meets the requirements or that the test suite covers all the requirements. It is also useful to demonstrate that each design element is there to meet one or more requirements, something that is required by some safety standards, such as DO-178B.[9]

To: Requirement **Scope:** RequirementsPkg

From: UseCase **Scope:** RequirementsPkg

	REQ_pt1	REQ_pt2	REQ_pt3	REQ_pt4	REQ_pt5	REQ_pt6	REQ_pt7	REQ_pt8	REQ_b1
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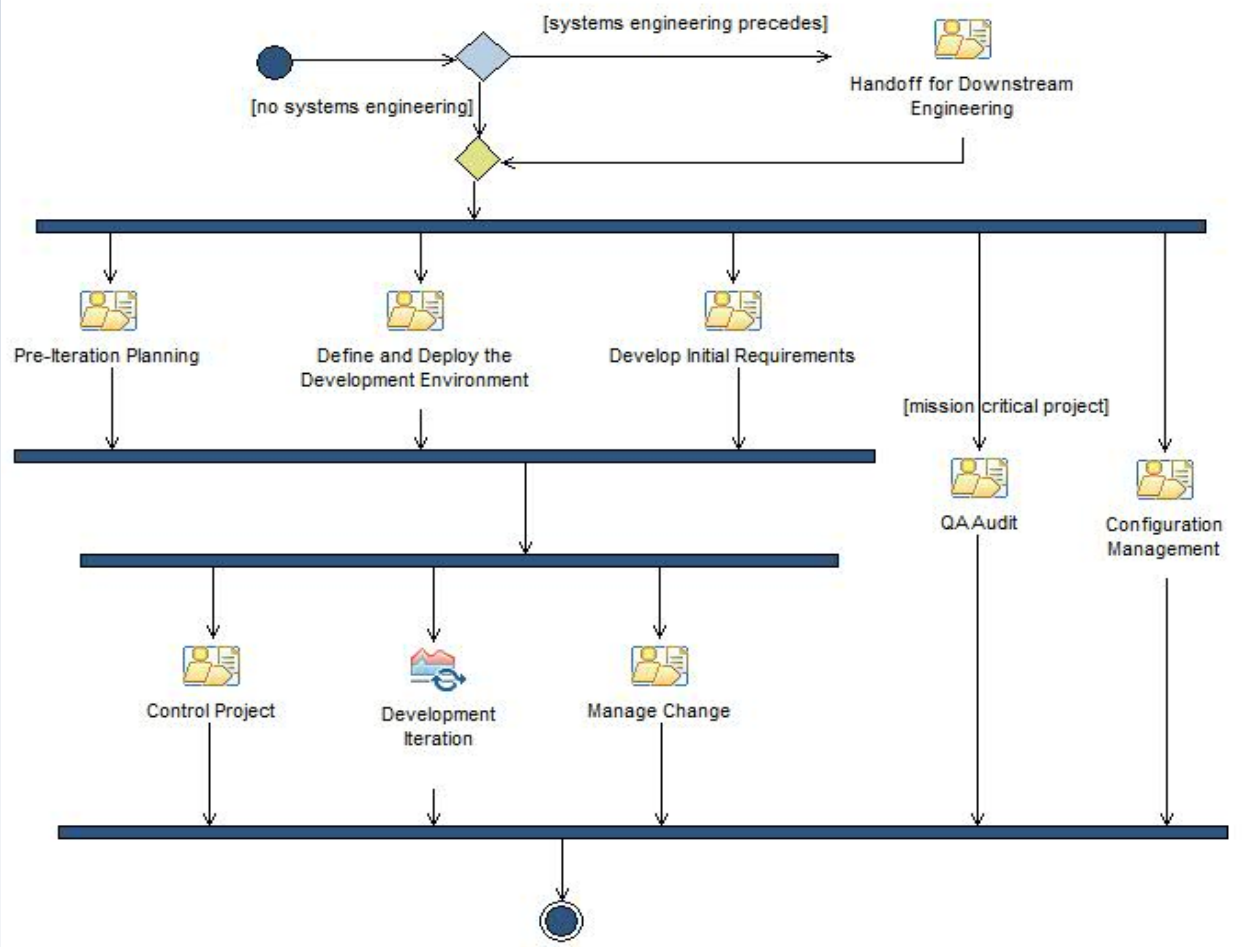
Transmission									
Configure System									
Lifesign Scanning									
Filtering									
Configure Biofilter									
Configure Hazadous Materials Filter									
Configure Operational Preferences									
Install and Initalize System									
Diagnostics and Built In Test									

Figure 6.19 *Requirements Traceability Matrix*

Fitting Traceability into the Agile Lifestyle

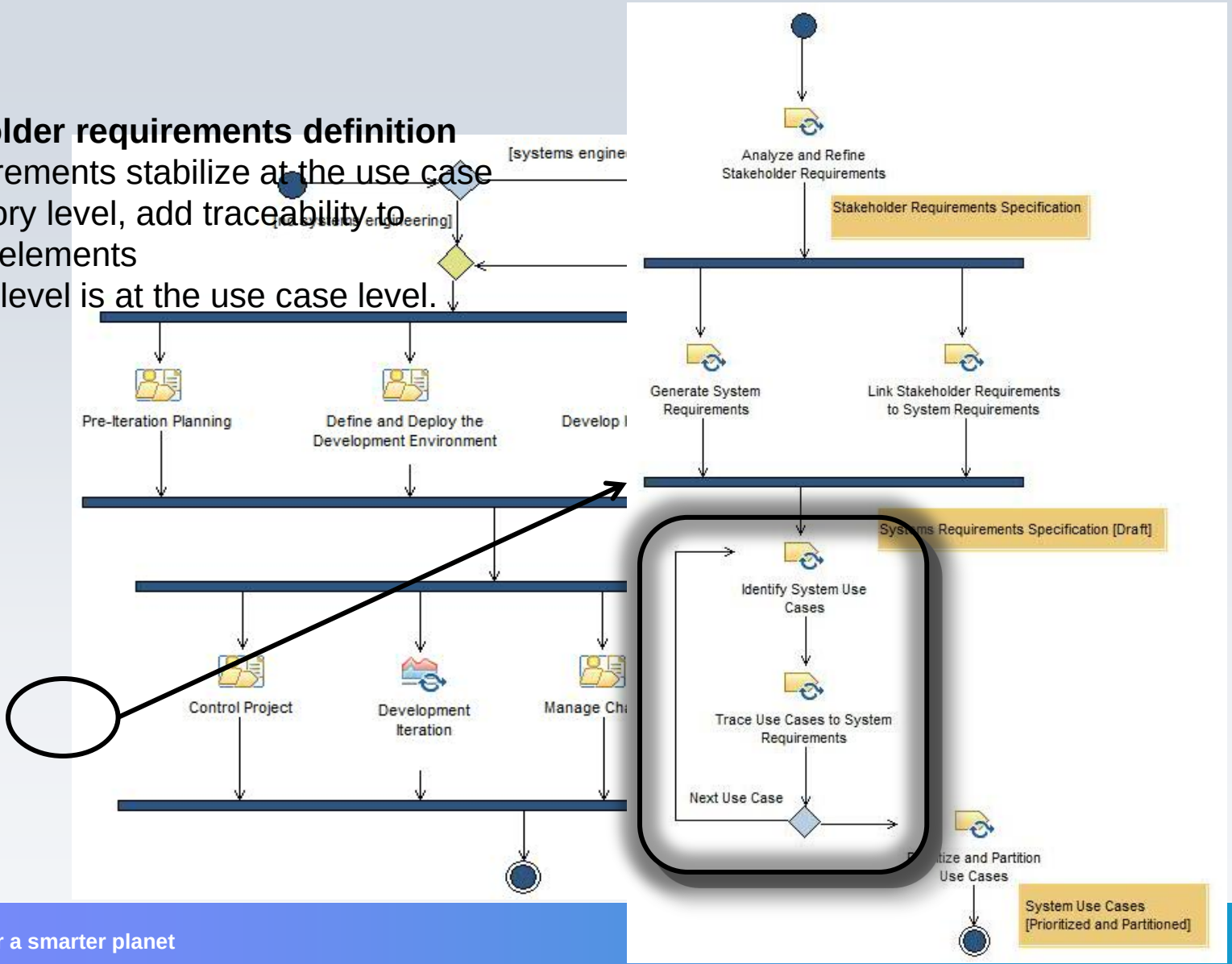
- Basic Premise: do “just enough” traceability to meet the project needs
- Best Practice: Incrementally add traceability



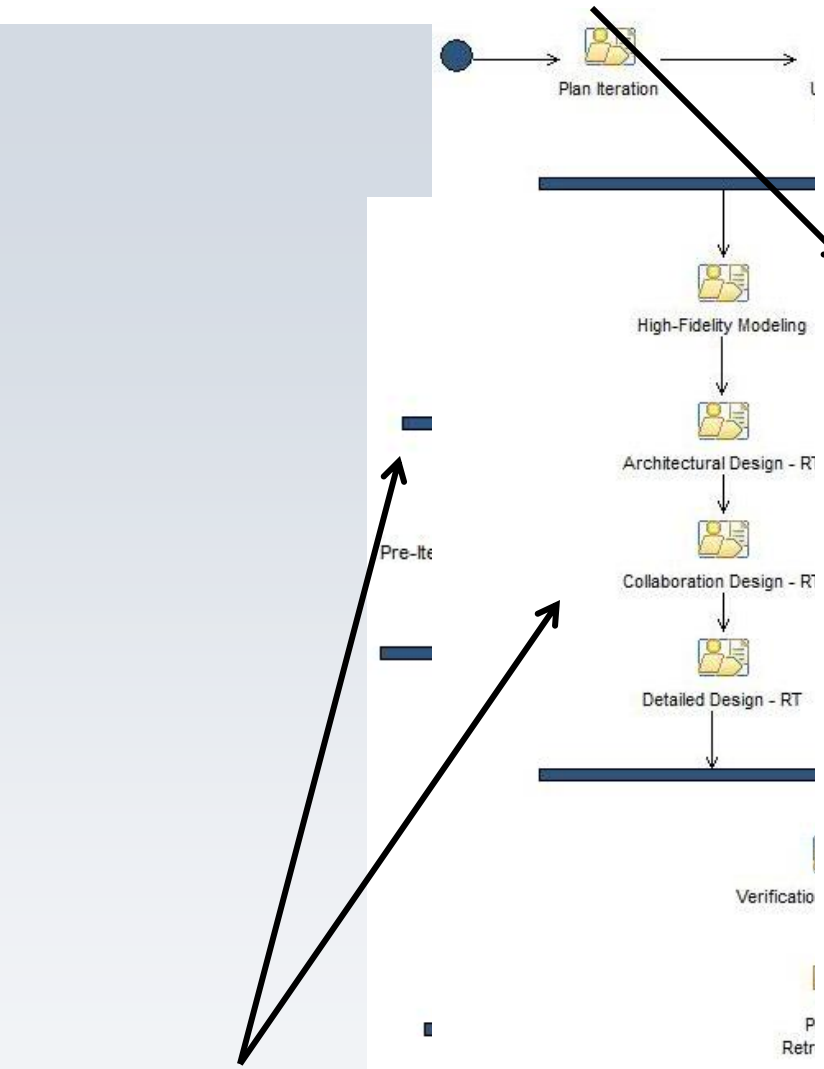
Fitting Traceability into the Agile Lifestyle

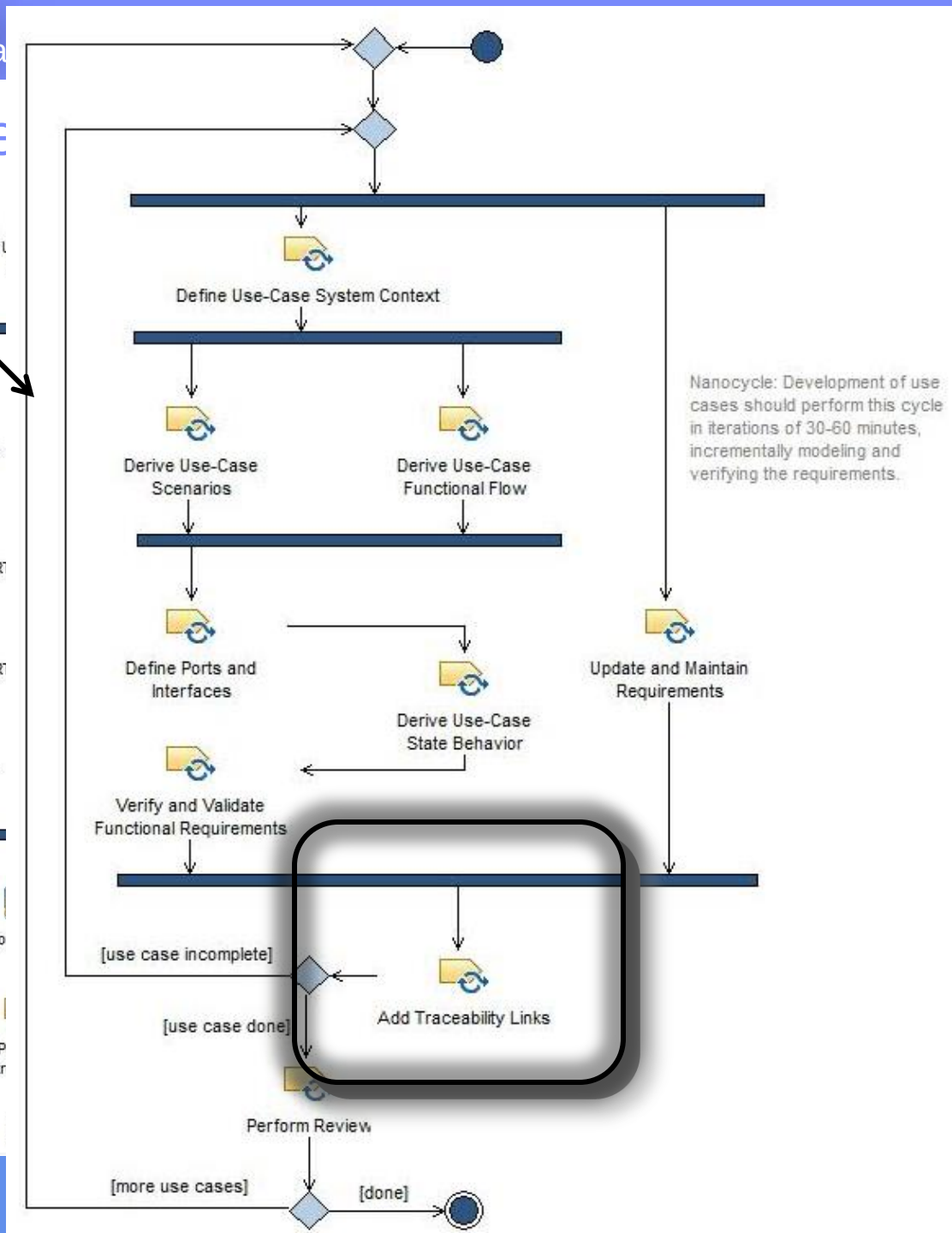
Stakeholder requirements definition

- As requirements stabilize at the use case / user story level, add traceability to relevant elements
- Iteration level is at the use case level.



Fitting Traceability into the





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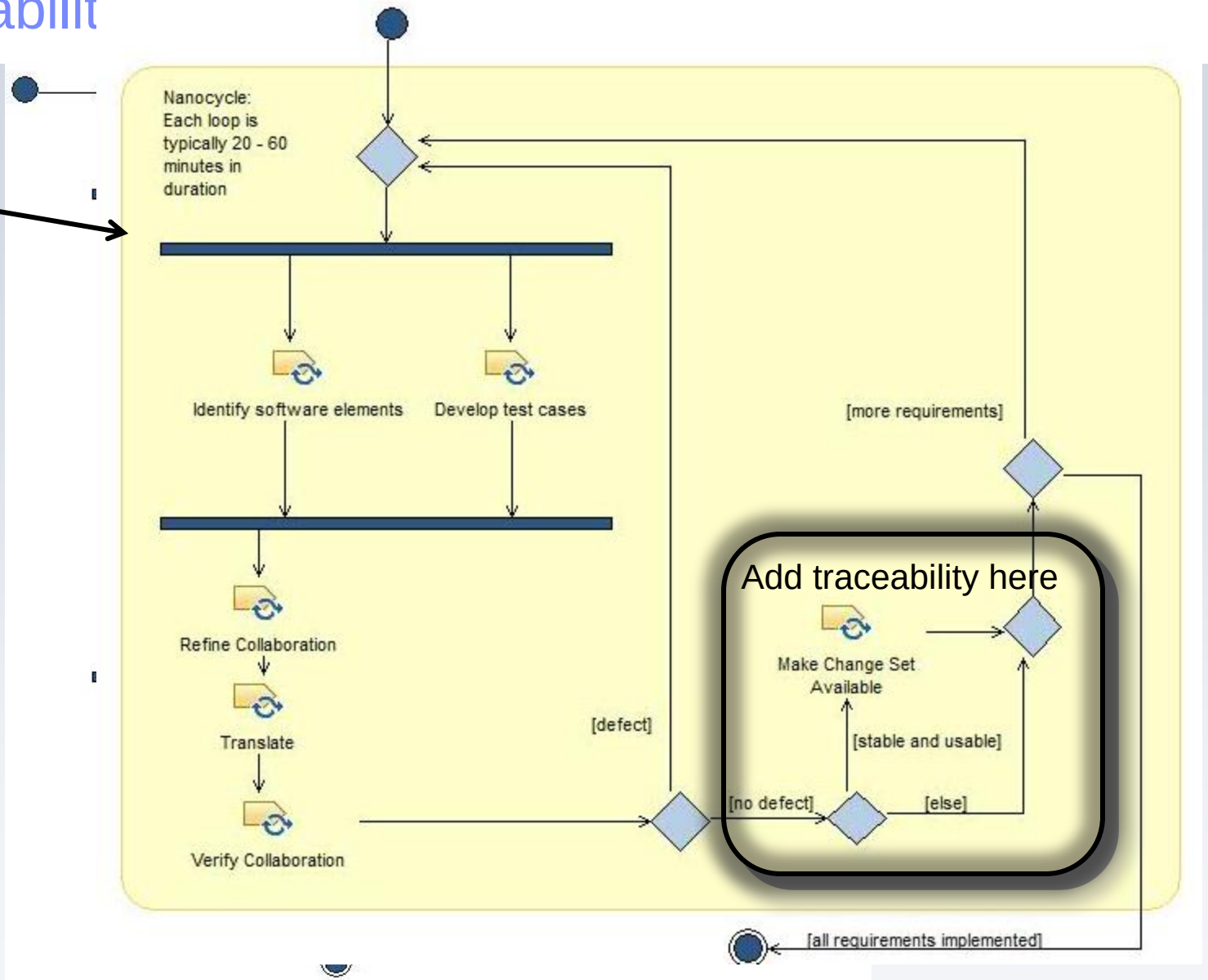


Traceability is essential for Agile Systems

Do it … if you want to ensure consistency among work products

… if want to do impact analysis

Provided that you add / maintain trace links incrementally

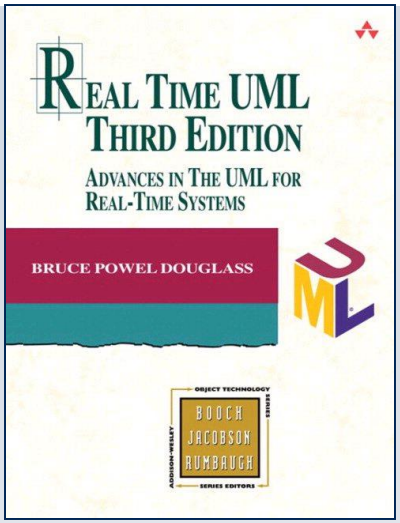
Tracing can be done manually, with RM tools like DOORS, in design tools like Rhapsody or visualized in aggregation tools such as RELM

Part of your change control process must include updating & verifying trace links

… if want to do provide evidence of compliance

… if you need to ensure testing completeness

References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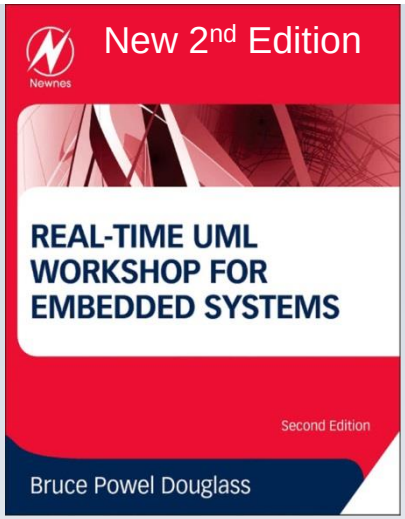
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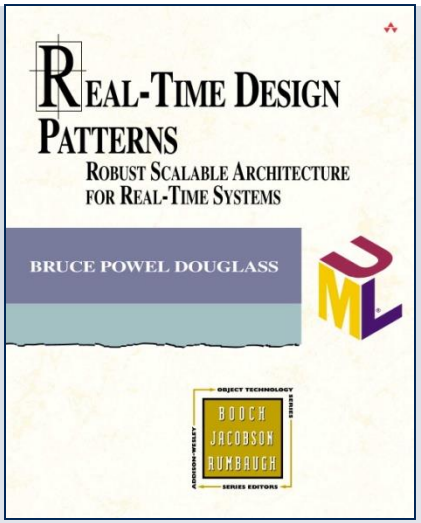
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ROBUST SCALABLE ARCHITECTURE
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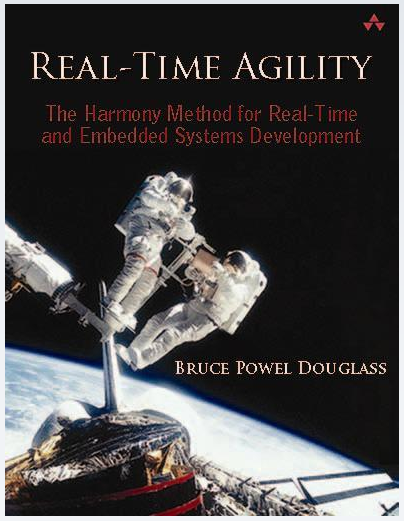
RUMBAUGH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and Embedded Systems Development
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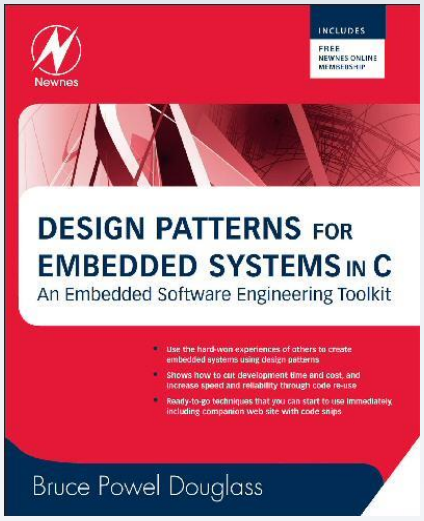
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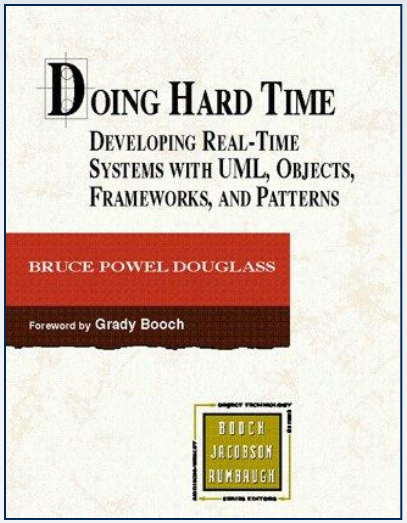
An Embedded Software Engineering Toolkit
Bruce Powel Douglass


DOING HARD TIME
DEVELOPING REAL-TIME
SYSTEMS WITH UML, OBJECTS,
FRAMEWORKS, AND PATTERNS
BRUCE POWEL DOUGLASS
Foreword by Grady Booch
BOOCH
JACOBSON
RUMBAUGH