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**Software engineering — Trial use
standard for software non-functional
sizing measurements**

*Ingénierie du logiciel — Norme expérimentale pour la quantification
des caractéristiques non fonctionnelles des logiciels*

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IEEE Trial-Use Standard for Software Non-Functional Sizing Measurements

Developed by the

Software & Systems Engineering Standards Committee (C/S2ESC)
of the
IEEE Computer Society

Approved 13 June 2019

IEEE-SA Standards Board

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Abstract: A method for the sizing of nonfunctional software requirements is defined in this standard. It complements ISO/IEC 20926:2009, which defines a method for the sizing of functional user requirements. Non-functional categories for data operations, interface design, technical environment, and architecture software are included in this standard. Steps to determine and calculate the non-functional size are also included. Handling requirements involving both functional and non-functional requirements are explained in this standard, which also covers how to apply non-functional sizing estimates in terms of cost, project duration and quality, and considerations of software performance in terms of productivity and quality. The combination of functional and non-functional size should correspond to the total size necessary to produce the software. The functional size and non-functional size are orthogonal, and both are needed when sizing the software. The complementarity of the functional and the non-functional sizes, to avoid overlaps or gaps between the two size methods, are described in this standard. Calculating the implementation work effort and duration of the non-functional requirements is outside the scope of this standard.

Keywords: IEEE 2430™, IFPUG, non-functional size measurements, non-functional requirements, SNAP

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 2430-2019, IEEE Trial-Use Standard for Software Non-Functional Sizing Measurements.

Having both software functional size and non-functional size provides significant information for the management of software product development. The functional size is quantifiable and represents a good measure of the functional project/application size. Providing a quantifiable measure for the non-functional requirements (NFR) allows organizations to build historical data repositories that can be referenced to assist in decision making for the technical and/or quality aspects of applications.

Non-functional sizing assists organization in multiple ways (see [Annex A](#)). It provides insight into projects and applications to assist in effort and cost estimating and in the analysis of quality and productivity. Used in conjunction with function-point analysis, non-functional sizing provides information that can identify additional software size, which may impact quality and productivity in a positive or negative way. Having this information enables software professionals to:

- Better plan, schedule, and estimate projects.
- Identify areas of process improvement.
- Assist in determining future technical strategies.
- Quantify the impacts of the current technical strategies.
- Improve quality: Analyzing non-functional size may assist in identifying implicit requirement and may assist in analyzing the components of the solution to meet the NFR by looking at the sizing attributes.

By learning the methodology as described in this standard and by performing the non-functional sizing together with functional sizing, the added time and effort to size the NFR is small.

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IEEE Trial-Use Standard for Software Non-Functional Sizing Measurements

1. Overview

1.1 Scope

This standard defines a method for the sizing of non-functional software requirements. It complements ISO/IEC 20926:2009, which defines a method for the sizing of functional user requirements (FUR).¹

This standard also describes the complementarity of functional and non-functional sizes, so that sizing both functional and non-functional requirements (NFR) do not overlap. It also describes how non-functional size, together with functional size, should be used for measuring the performance of software projects, setting benchmarks, and estimating the cost and duration of software projects.

In general, there are many types of non-functional software requirements. Moreover, non-functional aspects evolve over time and may include additional aspects in the as technology advances. This standard does not intend to define the type of NFR for a given context. Users may choose ISO 25010:2011 or any other standard for the definition of NFR. It is assumed that users will size the NFR based on the definitions they use.

This standard covers a subset of non-functional types. It is expected that, with time, the state of the art can improve and that potential future versions of this standard can define an extended coverage. The ultimate goal is a version that, together with ISO/IEC 20926:2009, covers every aspect that may be required of any prospective piece of software, including aspects such as process and project directives that are hard or impossible to trace to the software's algorithm or data. The combination of functional and non-functional size would then correspond to the total size necessary to bring the software into existence.

Calculating the effort and duration of the implementation of the NFR is outside the scope of this standard.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this standard is to define the method of sizing of NFR and describe how to use this size, alongside with the functional size.

¹Information on references can be found in [Clause 2](#).

1.3 Word usage

The word *shall* indicates mandatory requirements strictly to be followed in order to conform to the standard and from which no deviation is permitted (shall equals is required to).^{2,3}

The word *should* indicates that among several possibilities one is recommended as particularly suitable, without mentioning or excluding others; or that a certain course of action is preferred but not necessarily required (should equals is recommended that).

The word *may* is used to indicate a course of action permissible within the limits of the standard (may equals is permitted to).

The word *can* is used for statements of possibility and capability, whether material, physical, or causal (can equals is able to).

2. Normative references

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ISO/IEC 14143-1:2007, Information Technology—Software measurement—Functional size measurement.^{4,5}

ISO/IEC 20926:2009, Software and systems engineering—Software measurement—IFPUG functional size measurement method 2009.

ISO/IEC 25010:2011, Systems and software engineering—Systems and software Quality Requirements and Evaluation (SQuaRE)—System and software quality models.

ISO/IEC TR 14143-5:2004 Information technology—Software measurement—Functional size measurement—Part 5: Determination of functional domains for use with functional size measurement.

ISO/IEC/IEEE 24765:2017, Systems and software engineering—Vocabulary.^{6,7}

²The use of the word *must* is deprecated and shall not be used when stating mandatory requirements, *must* is used only to describe unavoidable situations.

³The use of *will* is deprecated and shall not be used when stating mandatory requirements, *will* is only used in statements of fact.

⁴ISO publications are available from the International Organization for Standardization (<https://www.iso.org/>) and the American National Standards Institute (<https://www.ansi.org/>).

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3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply. For terms not defined in this clause, consult ISO/IEC/IEEE 24765:2017 or the *IEEE Standards Dictionary Online*.⁸

adaptive maintenance: Modification of a software product, performed after delivery, to keep a software product usable in a changed or changing environment.

NOTE 1 —Adaptive maintenance provides enhancements necessary to accommodate changes in the environment in which a software product must operate. These changes are those that must be made to keep pace with the changing environment. For example, the operating system might be upgraded, and some changes may be made to accommodate the new operating system.⁹

NOTE 2 —From ISO/IEC 14764:2006 ed 2.0, Copyright © 2006 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch. [B8].¹⁰

application: A cohesive collection of automated procedures and data supporting a business objective; it consists of one or more components, modules, or subsystems. Examples: accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, procurement, shop production, assembly line control, air search radar, target tracking, weapons firing, flight line scheduling, and passenger reservations.

NOTE —From ISO/IEC 20926:2009 ed 2.0, Copyright © 2009 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch.

boundary (application boundary): A conceptual interface between the software under study and its users. The boundary (also referred to as application boundary) defines what is external to the application; it indicates the border between the software being measured and the user; it acts as a “membrane” through which data processed by transactions pass into and out of the application; it is dependent on the user’s external business view of the application; it is independent of non-functional and/or implementation considerations. The boundary is identical when assessing the functional size and the non-functional size

NOTE —From ISO/IEC 14143-1:2007 ed 2.0, Copyright © 2007 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch.

code data: A type of data entities, used for software sizing (in addition to Business Data and Reference Data). According to ISO/IEC 20926:2009 [HPUG function point analysis (FPA)], “code data” usually exists to satisfy non-functional requirements (NFR) from the user (for quality requirements, physical implementation and/or a technical reason). Code data provides a list of valid values that a descriptive attribute may have. Typically, the attributes of the code data are Code, Description and/or other “standard” attributes describing the code; e.g., standard abbreviation, effective date, termination date, audit trail data, etc. The different categories of data are outlined below to assist in identification.

corrective maintenance: Reactive modification of a software product performed after delivery to correct discovered problems [B8].

NOTE 1 —The modification repairs the software product to satisfy requirements.

NOTE 2 —From ISO/IEC 14764:2006 ed 2.0, Copyright © 2006 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch.

⁸*IEEE Standards Dictionary Online* is available at: <http://dictionary.ieee.org>.

⁹Notes in text, tables, and figures of a standard are given for information only and do not contain requirements needed to implement this standard.

¹⁰The numbers in brackets correspond to those of the bibliography in Annex B.

data element type (DET): A unique, non-repeated attribute, which can be in Business Data, Reference Data, or code data. The number of different types of Data Elements of all tables is the number of DETs. Instances of control information are also counted as a DET, such as the “Enter” key to facilitate an external input (EI).

database view: The result set of a stored query on the data, which the database users can query just as they would in a persistent database collection object. This pre-established query command is kept in the database dictionary. Unlike ordinary base tables in a relational database, it is a virtual table computed or collated dynamically from data in the database, when access to that view is requested. Changes applied to the data in a relevant underlying table are reflected in the data shown in subsequent invocations of the view.

elementary process (EP): The smallest unit of activity that is meaningful to the user(s).

NOTE —From ISO/IEC 20926:2009 ed 2.0, Copyright © 2009 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch.

external input (EI): An elementary process (EP) that processes data or control information sent from outside the boundary.

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external inquiry (EQ): An elementary process (EP) that sends data or control information outside the boundary.

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external interface file (EIF): user recognizable group of logically related data or control information, which is referenced by the application being measured, but which is maintained within the boundary of another application.

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external output (EO): An elementary process (EP) that sends data or control information outside the boundary and includes additional processing logic beyond that of an External Inquiry.

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family of platforms: Software Platforms that are serving the same purpose. for example, operating systems; browsers. *See also:* **platforms**.

file type referenced (FTR): A data function read and/or maintained by a transactional function. A file type referenced includes: An internal logical file read or maintained by a transactional function, or an external interface file read by a transactional function. Code data is grouped into one additional FTR.

function points (FPs): A unit of measurement to express the amount of functionality an information system (as a product) provides to a user. In this standard, function points (FPs).

NOTE —From ISO/IEC 20926:2009 ed 2.0, Copyright © 2009 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch.

functional sizing measurements (FSM): The process of measuring functional size.

NOTE —From ISO/IEC 14143-1:2007 ed 2.0, Copyright © 2007 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch.

functional user requirements (FUR): A sub-set of the user requirements. Requirements that describe what the software shall do, in terms of tasks and services.

NOTE 1—FUR relate to, but are not limited to:

- Data transfer (for example: input customer data; send control signal)
- Data transformation (for example: calculate bank interest; derive average temperature)
- Data storage (for example: store customer order; record ambient temperature over time)
- Data retrieval (for example: list current employees; retrieve latest aircraft position)

NOTE 2—Examples of user requirements that are not FUR include, but are not limited to:

- Quality constraints (for example: usability, reliability, efficiency and portability)
- Organizational constraints (for example: locations for operation, target hardware and compliance to standards)
- Environmental constraints (for example: interoperability, security, privacy and safety)
- Implementation constraints (for example: development language, delivery schedule)

NOTE 3—From ISO/IEC 14143-1:2007 ed 2.0, Copyright © 2007 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch.

internal logical file (ILF): User recognizable group of logically related data or control information maintained within the boundary of the application being measured.

logical file: A logical group of data as seen by the user. A logical file is made up of one or more data entities. A data function represents functionality provided to the user to meet internal and external data storage requirements. A data function is either an internal logical file or an external interface file. Grouping of data into logical files is the result of the combined effect of two grouping methods: Method a) is process driven, based on the user transactions in the application. Method b) is data-driven, based on the business rules.

multiple instance approach: The case where each method of delivery of same functionality is counted separately. *See also:* **single instance approach**.

non-functional size: Size of the software derived by quantifying the non-functional requirements (NFR), defined by a set of rules.

non-functional requirements (NFR): Any requirement for a software-intensive system or for a software product, including how it should be developed and maintained, and how it should perform in operation, except any functional user requirement for the software. Non-functional requirements (NFR) concern: the software system or software product quality, the environment in which the software system or software product must be implemented and which it must serve, and the processes and technology to be used to develop and maintain the software system or software product and the technology to be used for their execution. *See also:* **functional user requirements**.

number of DETs: The sum of all DETs which are part of the input/output/query of the elementary process (EP), plus the data elements which are read or updated internally to the boundary.

partition: A set of software functions within an application boundary that share homogeneous criteria and values. A partition requires development effort, which may not be reflected when sizing the functional aspect of the project/product, using FPA. Partition is designed to improve non-functional perspective of the users,

such as maintainability, portability, or installability, (and is not based on technical or physical considerations). Partitions do not overlap.

perfective maintenance: modification of a software product after delivery to detect and correct latent faults in the software product before they are manifested as failures.

NOTE 1—Perfective maintenance provides enhancements for users, improvement of program documentation, and recoding to improve software performance, maintainability, or other software attributes (from ISO/IEC 14764:2006 ed 2.0, Copyright © 2006 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch).

NOTE 2—Contrast with adaptive maintenance, corrective maintenance.

platform: (A) Type of computer or hardware device and/or associated operating system, or a virtual environment, on which software can be installed or run. (B) A collection of hardware and software components that are needed for a CASE tool to operate. (C) Combination of an operating system and hardware that makes up the operating environment in which a program runs.

NOTE 1—A platform is distinct from the unique instances of that platform, which are typically referred to as devices or instances.

NOTE 2—(A) is from ISO/IEC 19770-1:2017 ed 3.0, 3.9, Copyright © 2017 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch. (B) is from IEEE Std 1175.2-2006 [B3]. (C) is from ISO/IEC 26513:2017 ed 2.0, 3.26 and ISO/IEC/IEEE 24765:2017, Copyright © 2017 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch

precautionary principle: The principle that the introduction of a new product or process whose ultimate effects are unknown or disputed should be resisted until such risks are appropriately mitigated. The precautionary principle denotes a duty to prevent harm, when it is within our power to do so, even when all the evidence is not in. This principle has been codified in several international treaties and in international law.

primary intent: intent that is first in importance.

record element type (RET): User recognizable sub-group of data element types (DETs) within a data function, and code data group as defined in the “code data” paragraph.

single instance approach: The case where each method of delivery of same functionality is counted only once. *See also:* **multiple instance approach.**

Software Non-functional Assessment Process (SNAP) category: A group of components, processes or activities that are used in order to meet the non-functional requirement. Categories classify the non-functional requirements (NFR), and are generic enough to allow for future technologies. Categories are divided into sub-categories, so that the SNAP category groups the sub-categories based on the same level of operations and/or similar type of sizing activities.

Software Non-functional Assessment Process (SNAP) counting unit (SCU): A component or activity, in which non-functional complexity and size are measured. The SCU is identified according to the nature of each sub-category. It may contain both functional and non-functional characteristics; therefore, sizing an SCU should be performed for its functional sizing, using function point analysis (FPA), and for its non-functional sizing, using SNAP.

Software Non-functional Assessment Process (SNAP) points (SP): A unit of measurement to express the size of a non-functional requirement. The non-functional size of the software non-functional assessment process (SNAP) counting units (SCUs) is identified in a sub-category. After identifying all the SCUs that are provided to meet the non-functional requirements (NFR), the SNAP points (SPs) of all SCUs are added together to obtain the calculated SPs.

Software Non-functional Assessment Process (SNAP) Sub-category: A component, a process or an activity executed within the project, to meet a non-functional requirement. (A non-functional requirement may consume more than one sub-category).

Software product: A set of computer programs, procedures, and possibly associated documentation and data. [B7].

NOTE —From ISO/IEC/IEEE 12207:2017 ed 2.0, Copyright © 2009 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch [B7].

software boundary (also referred to as “application boundary”): A conceptual interface between the software under study and its users. The boundary defines what is external to the application; it indicates the border between the software being measured and the user; it acts as a “membrane” through which data processed by transactions pass into and out of the application. Software boundary is dependent on the user’s external business view of the application.

software project: The set of work activities, both technical and managerial, required to satisfy the terms and conditions of a project agreement. A software project has specific starting and ending dates, well-defined objectives and constraints, established responsibilities, a budget and a schedule. A software project may be self-contained or may be part of a larger project. In some cases, a software project may span only a portion of the software development cycle. In other cases, a software project may span many years and consist of numerous subprojects, each being a well-defined and self-contained software project.

software-intensive system: A system for which software is a major technical challenge and is perhaps the major factor that affects system schedule, cost, and risk. In the most general case, a software-intensive system is comprised of hardware, software, people, and manual procedures [B2].

NOTE —From IEEE Std 1062-2015 [B2].

user: any person or thing that communicates or interacts with the software at any time.

NOTE 1—Examples of “thing” include, but are not limited to, software applications, animals, sensors, or other hardware.

NOTE 2—From ISO/IEC 14143-1:2007 ed 2.0, Copyright © 2007 IEC Geneva, Switzerland. www.iec.ch.

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG): part of a series of web accessibility guidelines published by the Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) of the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C®). They are a set of guidelines that specify how to make content accessible, primarily for people with disabilities—but also for all user agents, including highly limited devices, such as mobile phones.

NOTE—WCAG 2.0 was published in December 2008 by the the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C®¹¹) and became an ISO standard, ISO/IEC 40500:2012 in October 2012. WCAG 2.1 [B15] was approved on 05 June 2018.

3.2 Abbreviations

DET	data element type
EDI	electronic data interchange
EI	external input
EO	external output

¹¹W3C is trademarks or registered trademarks of the W3C®, (registered in numerous countries) World Wide Web Consortium. Marks of W3C are registered and held by its host institutions: Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), European Research Consortium for Information and Mathematics (ERCIM), and Keio University, Japan.

EP	elementary process
EQ	external inquiry
FSM	functional size measurement
FUR	functional user requirements
FP	function point
FPA	function point analysis
GUI	graphical user interface
NFR	non-functional requirements
NFSSM	non-functional software size measurement
RET	record element type
SCU	SNAP counting unit
SOA	service-oriented architecture
SNAP	Software Non-functional Assessment Process
SP	SNAP Point
WCAG	Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

4. Introductory Information

4.1 Non-Functional Software Size Measurement (NFSSM) introduction

In software engineering, size is an important attribute of software. For instance, the size of a piece of software-under-planning is used to calculate the resources (including time) necessary to develop the software, provided historical or benchmark productivity data is available. The size of a piece of software once finished is used for the normalization of certain software performance indicators (e.g., the number of defects found in the software) or for the calculation of the development organization's performance, including its productivity. This information is used to estimate the effort of future software projects.

The size of software can be measured in several ways, with different units of measure. For software that already exists, size can be measured by counting the source statements that form the software's algorithm and data. However, one major disadvantage of “source statement” as a unit of measure is that early in the development of software there are no statements yet to count. The substitute for estimating the number of source statements needed to satisfy the software requirements is quite imprecise due to a dependency on implementation specifics typically decided later in the project. This imprecision can be avoided by basing the sizing activity on present software requirements instead of future source statements.

Several sizing methods have been put forward that are based on software requirements. One of these methods is defined in ISO/IEC 20926:2009, which focuses on a subtype of the software requirements, the FUR, and assigns “function points” (FPs) (the unit of measure) to elements of FUR.

In addition to functional and non-functional size, other project-constraint attributes can be considered to provide perspective to an appropriate level of detail. This includes, for example, development methodology, maturity level of the organization, tools, experience, quality, and collaboration effectiveness between team members.

This standard complements ISO/IEC 20926:2009 by focusing on non-functional (software) requirements. Instead of FPs, this standard assigns SNAP points (SPs) to NFR.

4.2 Software-intensive system and software product

Along with software, a software-intensive system may include hardware, data, and other components, such as documents and training. The NFR of the software-intensive system may be met by the software product or by the other components of the software-intensive system. For example, requirements for improving the response time of a system may be met by advanced hardware, by improving the efficiency of the software, or by both. NFR may be also met by the changes to the data maintained or used by the software product, and not by the software product.

Non-functional software size measures the software product, it does not measure the NFR that are met by non-software components of the software-intensive system.

4.3 Software domains

ISO 14143-1:2007 defines software functional domain as a “class of software based on the characteristics of Functional User Requirements.” The term “software domains” replaces the phrase “software types” (which have been loosely defined) and is used to differentiate between categories of software products, so that performance indicators can be compared within similar types of software products.

ISO/IEC 14143-1:2007 requires that a Functional Size Measurement (FSM) Method shall describe the functional domain(s) to which it can be applied. ISO/IEC TR 14143-5:2004 defines the method to determine the functional domain.

A non-functional software size measurement (NFSSM) should use the same method of functional domains, as described in ISO/IEC 14143-1:2007 when comparing the performance of the non-functional aspects of software products or software projects.

4.4 The relations between non-functional requirements (NFR) definition and functional user requirements (FUR)

4.4.1 NFR

The boundary between functional requirements and NFR does not have a universally-agreed definition. ISO/IEC/IEEE 24765:2017 [B10] defines NFR as “a software requirement that describes not what the software will do, but how the software will do it.” ISO/IEC 25010:2011 defines a product quality model and categorizes product quality properties into eight characteristics (functional suitability, reliability, performance efficiency, usability, security, compatibility, maintainability, and portability). ISO/IEC 25010:2011 supersedes ISO/IEC 9126:1991, which identified six quality characteristics, which were intended to be exhaustive. As the software capabilities evolve, the definition of NFR and their boundary with functional requirements may change, and a new standard may supersede ISO/IEC 25010:2011 in the future.

This standard defines how to size the NFR of the software product irrespective of the way NFR are defined. Instead, a non-functional requirement is mapped to the category and sub-category of the software non-functional sizing method. SNAP sub-categories do not define or describe NFR; they classify how these requirements are met within the software product.

4.4.2 The relations between NFR and SNAP sub-categories

The implementation of a non-functional requirement, which can be defined using ISO/IEC 25010:2011 or any other standard, should be sized using SNAP sub-categories. SNAP measures the size of the implementation, and not the non-functional requirement.

The categories and sub-categories and the method to size the sub-categories are defined in [Clause 5](#). They are as follows::

- a) Category 1—Data operations
 - 1) Sub-Category 1.1—Data entry validation
 - 2) Sub-Category 1.2—Logical and mathematical operations
 - 3) Sub-Category 1.3—Data formatting
 - 4) Sub-Category 1.4—Internal data movements
 - 5) Sub-Category 1.5—Delivering added value to users by data configuration
- b) Category 2: Interface design
 - 1) Sub-Category 2.1—User interfaces
 - 2) Sub-Category 2.2—Help methods
 - 3) Sub-Category 2.3—Multiple input methods
 - 4) Sub-Category 2.4—Multiple output methods
- c) Category 3: Technical environment
 - 1) Sub-Category 3.1—Multiple platforms
 - 2) Sub-Category 3.2—Database technology
 - 3) Sub-Category 3.3—Batch processes
- d) Category 4: Architecture
 - 1) Sub-Category 4.1—Component-based software
 - 2) Sub-Category 4.2—Multiple input/output interfaces

A non-functional requirement may be implemented in the software product by using one or more SNAP sub-categories. Accordingly, a sub-category may cater for several non-functional characteristics, as defined by these standards, for example, a requirement to improve the way system recovers from a crash. Using ISO/IEC 25010:2011, this requirement falls under the area of reliability, and the sub characteristic is recoverability.

The software product is designed as follows:

- An algorithm is added to identify corrupted data in specific fields
- Time stamps are added to database records
- An algorithm is written to reconstruct corrupted data using uncorrupted record

The design involves the following SNAP sub-categories:

- Database technology (adding time stamp)
- Logical and mathematical operations

In this example, the “recoverability” type of non-functional requirement is mapped to two SNAP sub-categories, “Database Technology” and “Logical and Mathematical Operations.”

More examples are illustrated in [Figure 1](#).

		Snap Categories and sub-categories													
		Data Operation					Interface Design				Technical Environment			Architecture	
ISO/IEC 25010:2011 Sub-characteristics (Partial list)		Data Entry Validations	Logical and Mathematical Operations	Data Formatting	Internal Data Movements	Delivering Added Value to Users by Data	User Interfaces	Help Methods	Multiple Input Methods	Multiple Output Methods	Multiple Platforms	Database Technology	Batch Processes	Component-based Software	Multiple Input/Output Interfaces
		1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	3.1	3.2	3.3	4.1	4.2
Portability	Replaceability														
	Installability														
	Adaptability														
Security	Accountability														
	Authenticity	Ex. 2													
Reliability	Fault Tolerance														
	Recoverability														
Usability	Accessibility														
	User Error Protection														
	Operability								Ex. 4						
	User Interface Aesthetics						Ex. 1								
	Learnability														
	Appropriateness														
	Recognizability														
Performance Efficiency	Capacity														
	Resource Utilization														
	Time Behavior												Ex. 3		
Functional Suitability	Functional Completeness														
	Functional Appropriateness														
	Functional Correctness														

Figure 1—Mapping ISO/IEC 25010:2011 characteristics to SNAP sub-categories

Example 1: Improving the understandability and learnability by adding pop-up help menus (Sub-category 2.1) and rearranging the screens (Sub-category 2.2).

Example 2: Improving security by adding more validations to the authentication process, using Sub-category 1.1 “Data Entry Validations” and Sub-category 1.2 “Logical and Mathematical Operations.”

Example 3: Improving performance by adding indices to the database and improving queries (Sub-category 3.2).

Example 4: Adding barcode reading as additional input method (Sub-category 2.3).

4.5 Key features of the NFSSM

A non-functional size assists organization in multiple ways. It provides insight into the delivery of software projects and maintenance of software applications to assist in effort estimating and in the analysis of key performance indicators, such as quality and productivity. Used in conjunction with FSM, the non-functional size provides information that can identify items impacting quality and productivity in a positive or negative way.

Having this information enables software professionals to do the following:

- a) Better plan and estimate projects
- b) Communicate the impact of NFR on the project with users and customers
- c) Compare project and analyze trends of improvement, and compare it to benchmarks
- d) Identify areas of improvement
- e) Assist in determining future non-functional strategies
- f) Quantify the impacts of the current non-functional strategies
- g) Provide specific data when communicating non-functional issues to various audiences
- h) A method to help users determine the benefit of an application package to their organization by assessing portions or categories that specifically match their requirements
- i) Determine the non-functional size of a purchased application package

Other key features include the following:

- j) NFSSM is independent of the way NFR are defined.
- k) This standard contains rules on how to use ISO/IEC 20926:2009 (IFPUG FSM) and NFSSM together, so that there should be no gaps and no overlaps between functional size and non-functional size. A requirement that contains both functional and non-functional aspects should be sized using ISO/IEC 20926:2009 for its functional aspects and SNAP for its non-functional aspects.
- l) FSM and NFSSM together should provide a complete view of the size of the software product.¹²
- m) This standard contains rules on how to use both functional size and non-functional size to calculate project performance (such as quality and productivity).

4.6 Future evolution of NFR

4.6.1 The challenge

As systems evolve, new variations on the types of requirements emerge from the enhanced capabilities of software. Machine learning, artificial intelligence, and the Internet of Things generate the need for new types of requirements, such as ethics, social responsibility, privacy, and sustainability. Similar to other NFR, such as security and accountability, these attributes shape the functional behaviors of the system and its components.

These requirements may fail to gain sufficient notice by software development teams until after a user finds a fault or a logic error or the system in use has had unintended consequences on user communities. Then everyone takes notice, with software development teams working to find corrective and preventive mitigations to address what may not fit the current definitions of functional requirements and the classification of NFR.

Similar to other requirements that are intended to shape system behaviors through the assurance of adherence to defined values, emerging requirements should reflect stakeholder values, some of which are often not explicitly defined or beyond the immediate access of the development environment (e.g., robotics as prosthetics). Software development teams need to understand the system's context of use, the risks of harm, then the application of the "precautionary principle" as the risk mitigation technique necessary to anticipate and mitigate against undesirable consequences such as harm to life of any kind and quality of life, the environment, a species, or a community.

¹²Future non-functional requirements may evolve in time. See also 1.1 for possible future enhancements of SNAP.

4.6.2 Current classification of these NFR

In ISO/IEC 25010:2011 terms, these emerging social requirements falls within the category of Freedom from risk. It defines Freedom from risk as:

The quality in use of a system characterizes the impact that the product (system or software product) has on stakeholders. It is determined by the quality of the software, hardware and operating environment, and the characteristics of the users, tasks and social environment. All these factors contribute to the quality in use of the system.

Systems should be evaluated by the following criteria:

- How risk free is the use of the system?
- How risk free does updating the content of the system need to be?
- How risk free does making maintenance changes to the system or porting the system need to be?
- How risk free does using the output from the system need to be?

4.6.3 Sizing quality-in-use requirements

Meeting these user requirements consumes time, effort, and other resources that should be evaluated and considered when planning and managing a software project. Therefore, like other user requirements, they should be sized.

SNAP can be used to size quality-in-use requirements. For example, algorithms to analyze if a certain situation may impose a risk and assessing the probability and the impact of such a risk can be sized using Sub-category 1.2—Logical and Mathematical Operations. Storing data for this purpose may be sized using Sub-category 3.2—Database Technology. However, the current set of sub-categories may be enhanced in the future to cover more aspects of these new requirements.

4.7 Objectives and benefits

4.7.1 Objectives

SNAP measures software by quantifying the size of NFR. With this in mind, the objectives of SNAP are to:

- a) Measure the non-functional size of the software that the user requests and receives
- b) Demonstrate the full economic value of the application, including its functional aspects as well as the non-functional aspects (have the non-functional application size in addition to the functional application size, to demonstrate the full economic value).
- c) Measure software development and maintenance projects based on the NFR
- d) Size technical projects, to which FPA is not applicable

In addition to meeting the above objectives, the process of sizing NFR should be:

- e) Simple enough to minimize the overhead of the measurement process.
- f) A consistent measure among various projects and organizations. SNAP allows determining (by counting each of the four categories, from each one of the sub-characteristics) the possibility of sizing and, therefore, better estimate a project with/without FPs, according to the set of user requirements received for a project.

4.7.2 Benefits

Non-functional sizing assists organizations in multiple ways. It provides insight into the delivery of projects and maintenance of applications to assist in estimating and in the analysis of quality and productivity. Used in conjunction with FSM, the non-functional sizing provides information that can identify items impacting quality and productivity in a positive or negative way.

Having this information enables software professionals to:

- a) Better plan and estimate projects
- b) Identify areas of process improvement
- c) Assist in determining future non-functional strategies
- d) Quantify the impacts of the current non-functional strategies
- e) Provide specific data when communicating non-functional issues to various audiences

Organizations can apply SNAP as:

- A method to measure the non-functional size of a software product to support quality and productivity analysis
- A method to estimate cost and resources required for software development and maintenance
- A method to measure cost reduction for software development and maintenance, in addition to FPA
- A normalization factor for software comparison
- A method to determine the non-functional size of a purchased application package by sizing all the portions and categories included in the package
- A method to help users determine the benefit of an application package to their organization by sizing portions or categories that specifically match their requirements

NOTE 1—"Function Points + SPs" are not equal to the overall product size:

As of the date of this publication, the size of a software application is considered to have two distinct parts: the size of the FURs and the size of the NFRs. For example, if an application's functional size is 700 FPs and non-functional size is 200 SPs, then the entire size could be stated as "700 FPs, and 200 SPs." The two sizes do not sum up to "900 points."¹³

The ISO/IEC 20926:2009 FSM (IFPUG functional sizing methodology) does not change when measuring the NFR using SNAP.

NOTE 2—A project may have zero Function Points and a nonzero number of SPs, or 0 SPs and a nonzero number of Function Points, or any combination of Function Points and SPs

5. Non-functional size: Categories and sub-categories

5.1 Category 1: Data operations

The data operations category relates to how data is processed within the SNAP counting unit (SCU) to meet the NFR in the application.

¹³See 8.2.4 for information on how "equivalent size" is calculated.

5.1.1 Sub-category 1.1: Data entry validation

Operations that are performed either to allow only certified (predefined) data or to prevent the acceptance of uncertified data.

5.1.1.1 The SNAP Counting Unit

The SCU is the elementary process (EP).

5.1.1.2 Terms**5.1.1.2.1 Nesting level**

The number of conditional validations (If-Else combo/“While” loop/“For” loop or any other validation blocks) in the longest chain of validation.

5.1.1.3 Complexity parameters

The nesting level complexity is shown in [Table 1](#)

Table 1—Nesting level complexity

Complexity level	Condition
Low complexity	2 nesting levels or fewer
Average complexity	3 to 5 nesting levels
High complexity	6 nesting levels or more

The number of unique DETs used across all validations. For example, there are two fields validated in the SCU, one uses three DETs for nested validation and another uses one DET, which is not one of the three DETs above, count four DETs.

5.1.1.4 Calculation method

Identify the complexity based on nesting level (see [Table 2](#). Calculate SPs based on the constant factor and the number of DETs (#DETs).

Table 2—SNAP sizing for data entry validations

	Nesting level complexity		
	Low	Average	High
	1-2	3-5	6+
SP =	$2 \times \text{the number of DETs}$	$3 \times \text{the number of DETs}$	$4 \times \text{the number of DETs}$

NOTE 1—Data entry may result from any source (e.g., UI, transactions).

NOTE 2—Number of nesting level is derived from the business requirements and high-level solution, and not from how the code is written.

NOTE 3—Validations are nested when there is a dependency between validations.

Example: A number must be between 0 and 10: if it is less than 1, it must have two digits after the decimal point. If it is 1 or more, it may have one or no digits after the decimal point.

NOTE 4—Several validations on a field are not nested when they are independent.

Example: A value must be numerical, greater than 0 and smaller than 1 000 000.

NOTE 5—This sub-category may include requirements for error handling or exceptions handling.

NOTE 6—DETs refer to all types of data.

NOTE 7—If code data is used for data entry validations, then any changes to code data values (add/change/delete) is counted using this category.

Examples:

- a) A date field must have a certain size; a value entered must be in a certain range of values; a code must be present in a certain table; a field is bound to the value of the previous field (e.g., state, county, city).
- b) Data entry validation enabled using code data for validation of airport names.¹⁴ A traveling order application has a screen with details of the departure airport, destination airport and the option to add multiple destinations. The current system validates the airport abbreviations (such as LHR, NYC) but cannot identify airport name. In this example, the user requirement is that the user shall be able to key in either the abbreviation or the airport name. The design is to use an existing code data with all airports and IATA airport codes, and to add validation rules both for the airport abbreviation and airport name. Three EPs were identified (order a flight, amend order, cancel order) using this code data validation. One nesting level and one DET are used for SNAP counting.
- c) Data entry validation enabled using logical checks on the DETs—adding an employee to an organization. In the processing logic of adding an employee to an organization, the number of validations performed during data entry on a screen and the complexity level of these validations, are considered non-functional. Employee ID, in this example, is not generated automatically but manually entered besides employee name, department, date of birth and more. Validating that the set of data is correct is sized using this subcategory. (These are considered to be technical requirements.) As per ISO/IEC 20926:2009, some operations, which are performed in the EP to ensure valid data, are added to the data information. The data elements in these operations are not visible to the user (although agreed with the user) and not counted as DETs in FP. Data elements that are involved in these hidden operations should be counted using SNAP model.

5.1.2 Sub-category 1.2: Logical and mathematical operations

5.1.2.1 Extensive mathematical operations

SNAP defines an “extensive mathematical operation” as a mathematical operation that includes one or more algorithms. An algorithm is defined for SNAP as a series of mathematical equations and calculations executed in conjunction with, or according to, logical operators to produce results identifiable to the user. Examples of extensive mathematical operations include using the Program Evaluation Review Technique (PERT) to calculate the expected completion date of a project, calculating the optimal profit for a business process using linear programming, determining the way to formulate the fastest flowing waiting lines using queuing theory, and finding the shortest route through a network. Examples of other algorithmic mathematical operations fitting the definition of “extensive” include solving calculus integration formulas, calculating federal income taxes, GPS calculations, gaming, weather forecasting, and perhaps calculating retirement pensions.

The DETs counted are the set of those required to operate the extensive mathematical operation, such as values for an algorithm’s variables and settings maintained by the algorithm’s control information. These values and settings are not necessarily stored in a single physical file; they may be stored in various locations such as settings of the value of variables located in the code or as DETs in various physical files. However they

¹⁴See 5.5: Sizing code data.

are located, as a set(s), this satisfies the requirements for either an internal logical file(s) or external interface file(s) because they are the logical grouping(s) of data necessary to operate the algorithm.

“Simple” or “routine” mathematical operations are defined here as not using algorithms. Examples can include adding a column of numbers, balancing a checking account, totaling daily sales, and calculating averages. Also, an application may require a simple or routine mathematical operation to be iterated many times. For example, a fast-food restaurant manager may need to place an order for ketchup packets from a supplier. The manager first counts the current inventory of ketchup packets, forecasts the expected usage, and places an order to make up for the expected resulting shortfall. This is a simple or routine mathematical operation. If the manager has 100 types of items in inventory and must perform this calculation 100 times to complete the total order with the supplier, then this is still defined as being a simple or routine mathematical operation because the simple or routine mathematical operation is iterated 100 times—“extensive” refers to the depth of the algorithm(s), not to the number of simple or routine calculation iterations needed.”

Sizing an EP is determined by the type of processing logic used by the external input (EI), external output (EO), or external inquiry (EQ). While this can give a higher size to the EP that contains mathematical operations, it does not necessarily correlate to the effort needed to produce extensive mathematical operations. SNAP size compensates for the additional complexity of extensive mathematical operations.

5.1.2.2 Extensive logical operations

SNAP defines an “extensive logical operation” as a logical operation either containing a minimum of four nesting levels, containing more than 38 DETs required to operate the logical operation, or both. These DETs do not necessarily have to cross the application boundary.

The outcome of a logical operation may be a decision or set of decisions or evaluating a condition using data that exist in one or more logical files. The SCU is the EP. If more than one logical operation can be executed within the EP, then count either the combined number of DETs in the operations containing a minimum of four nesting levels, or count the sum of the DETs involved in all of the logical operations assuming that the sum is more than 38 (whichever is larger).

5.1.2.3 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The EP.

5.1.2.4 Complexity parameters

SCU complexity parameters are as follows:

- FTR density of the logical file being accessed to do the business logic processing (see [Table 3](#))

Table 3—FTR density, logical and mathematical operations

	FTR density		
	0–3 FTR	0–3 FTR	0–3 FTR
Complexity Level	Low	Average	High

- Processing logic type of the EP (logical/mathematical) (see [Table 4](#))

Table 4—EP type for logical and mathematical operations

EP Type	Main Purpose of the EP
Logical	Decision making or evaluating a condition using data that exist in one or more logical files (internal and/or external) Example: Exception processing
Mathematical	Transformation of data and/or use of control information that exists in one or more logical files (internal and/or external) that is used for an extensive mathematical operation. Example: Complex tax calculation

— Number of data elements types (#DETs) (see Table 5)

Table 5—SNAP sizing for logical and mathematical operations

	Complexity Level		
	Low	Average	High
	SP=	SP=	SP=
EP type: Logical	4 × the number of DETs	6 × the number of DETs	10 × the number of DETs
EP type: Mathematical	3 × the number of DETs	4 × the number of DETs	7 × the number of DETs

FTR density factor is measured as follows: Type of the EP (logical/mathematical). Identify the type of the EP.

5.1.2.5 Calculation method

Identify FTR density based on the number of FTRs. Calculate size based on FTR density, EP type, and the number of DETs.

NOTE—When the main purpose cannot be clearly identified, select “Logical” (do not count it as one logical and one mathematical).

Examples of extensive logical and mathematical operations include the following:

- Project scheduling critical path analysis
- Complex tax calculations
- Linear programming algorithms
- Calculus integration formulas
- Financial return on investment calculations for a large industrial machine
- Statistical analysis of variance calculations
- Business sales forecasting using the ensemble forecasting method

5.1.3 Sub-category 1.3: Data formatting

A requirement that deals with structure, format, or administrative information in a transaction not directly relevant to functionality that is seen by the user.

5.1.3.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The EP.

5.1.3.2 Complexity parameters

Sub-category 1.3 complexity parameters include the following:

- a) Transformation complexity
 - 1) **Low:** Data type conversions or simple formatting such as byte padding, or data substitution, using a maximum of 2 operators (Celsius to Fahrenheit, single integer to double integer).
 - 2) **Average:** Involves encryption/decryption, which is a characteristic of the application and applies to almost all processes that is provided through a library—API interface.
 - 3) **High:** Involves local Encryption/Decryption.
- b) Number of data elements types (#DETs) transformed.

5.1.3.3 Calculation method

Identify the complexity based on transformation. Calculate SPs based on the constant factor and the number of DETs (#DETs) (see Table 6).

Table 6—SNAP sizing for data entry validations

	Transformation complexity		
	Low	Low	Low
SP =	$2 \times \text{the number of DETs}$	$3 \times \text{the number of DETs}$	$5 \times \text{the number of DETs}$

NOTE 1—Data elements refer to all types of data

NOTE 2—The encryption algorithm is complex for:

- Design specifically allowed to several key lengths
- Provide a method to check data integrity for high volume data
- Formatting medical images
- Restructure huge volume database etc.

Examples:

- a) Simple transformations:
 - 1) Convert text to value or value to text; convert strings to values.
 - 2) Data formatting required for reporting requirements.
 - 3) An application shows the date (MMDDYYYY), time (GMT), current atmospheric temperature (degrees Fahrenheit) in a standard format. However, due to regulations, the date is required to be displayed as 'YYYYMMDD', the time should always show the local time zone, and temperature should be displayed as "Degrees Kelvin."
 - 4) The display formats need to be converted to adhere to the standards prescribed.
- b) Complex transformations:
 - 1) Enabling multi-lingual support for an application by using code data.
 - 2) Encryption/ decryption, compression–decompression.

- 3) Compliance with standards for the electronic transfer of data in a healthcare environment. The data packets are sent and received in a particular format called electronic data interchange (EDI). For example: change the structure of the transactions (add headers and footers); the transaction format is changed per HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) [B1] requirements with no changes in the functionality.
- 4) Data interchange formats—XML to other formats, or other means of data interchange between two computer systems.
- 5) Preparation of metadata for various screen requirements or data warehouse views.
- 6) Transformations in data warehouse.

5.1.4 Sub category 1.4: Internal data movements

Data movements from one partition to another within application boundary with specific data handling.

5.1.4.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The portion of the EP that crosses from one partition to another.

The SCU is identified by the EP and the two partitions crossed. If an EP crosses more than two partitions, use the formula below per each partition crossing [in Figure 2, an EP may move from Component 1 to Component 2 (labeled “A”), and then to Component 3 (labeled “B”). In such a case, SPs shall be calculated at each partition crossing].

NOTE—An EP is the smallest unit of activity that is meaningful to the user. While ISO/IEC 20926:2009 (IFPUG FSM) refers to transactions that cross the application boundary—for Sub-category 1.4 SCU—this standard refers to their internal processes/functions, which move from one partition to another.

5.1.4.2 Complexity parameters

Sub-category 1.4 complexity parameters include the following:

- a) The number of unique data elements types (#DETs) transferred from one partition to the other, and are processed and/or maintained.
- b) The number of unique FTRs either read or updated by the EP at both partitions crossed.

5.1.4.3 Calculation method

Identify the complexity level based on the number of FTRs read/updated and number of DETs transferred. Calculate size as per Table 7 for each partition crossing.

Table 7—SNAP sizing for internal data movements

	Complexity Level		
	Low	Low	Low
	(0–3 FTR)	(0–3 FTR)	(0–3 FTR)
SP =	$4 \times \text{the number of DETs}$	$6 \times \text{the number of DETs}$	$10 \times \text{the number of DETs}$

NOTE 1—Internal data movements sub-category sizes internal transactions within the boundary of an application. These transactions are used in case they cross partitions.

NOTE 2—Internal data movements are counted by SNAP for functional transactions as well as non-functional transactions.

For example: Querying fields on a front-end application by using data that is stored in the back-end application.

NOTE 3—Any data transaction (functional) that crosses partitions, generates SPs in addition to FPs.

NOTE 4—When an EP crosses the partition in both directions, SNAP is sized as follows:

- One SCU, if the transactions are synchronous
- Two separate SCUs, if the transactions are a-synchronous

The following are examples of EPs that may have data crossing partitions:

- a) Data backup within application boundary, crossing partitions.
- b) Data copy/movement between tables within application boundary, crossing partitions.
- c) Realign data in temporary storage.
- d) Transactions between application and middleware that do not cross functional boundaries.
- e) Service-oriented architecture (SOA) solutions. (When SOA functionality are within the application boundary.)
- f) Data movements between tiers that do not cross functional boundaries.
- g) Data formatting transactions that use data that crosses partitions.
- h) Internal transactions for logical /mathematical operations.
- i) Reference data maintenance.

Sub-category 3.3 (Batch Processes) covers batch jobs. Batch jobs may be executed within a single partition. If the batch job crosses partitions, then it may need to be sized for additional impacts by this sub-category.

Example:

An EP “process invoice” has two partition crossings as shown in Figure 2:

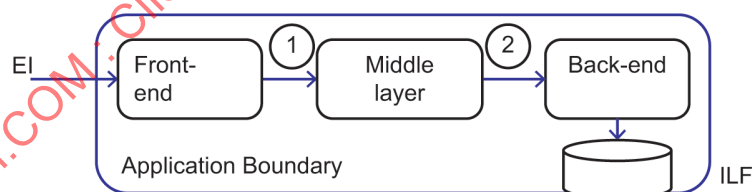


Figure 2—Example: Internal data movement

Each component references/updates a unique set of FTRs during the processing as follows:

- Partition 1—2 FTRs
- Partition 2—4 FTRs
- Partition 3—3 FTRs

For this process six DETs are crossing from Partition 1 to Partition 2 and five (5) DETs are crossing from Partition 2 to Partition 3.

For the SCU “1 crossing” (from front-end to middle layer):

- Number of FTRs = $2 + 4 = 6$ (Average complexity)
- Number of DETs = 6
- SP = $6 \times$ the number of DETs = 36

For the SCU “2 crossing” (from middle layer to back-end):

- Number of FTRs = $4 + 3 = 7$ (Average complexity)
- Number of DETs = 5
- SP = $6 \times$ the number of DETs = 30

5.1.5 Sub-category 1.5: Delivering added value to users by data configuration

Additional unique business value to users that is provided by adding, changing or deleting reference data/ code data information from the database or data storage with no change in software code or the database structure.

5.1.5.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The EP per logical file.

NOTE—The SCU is the EP to consume the added value in the logical file and not the process to create or modify the configuration

Example: A new service is defined by adding its attributes to reference tables. The application is flexible enough to provide the new service with no code changes. EPs to be counted may be: add the new service; change this service; cease the service. The process to add the service attributes to the reference tables (i.e., writing and using scripts) should not be counted.

In case the configured data impacts several EPs, each EP is counted separately.

5.1.5.2 Terms

5.1.5.2.1 Attribute

An independent parameter that has a unique business meaning and contains a set of different values.

5.1.5.2.2 A record

One row in a logical file.

5.1.5.2.3 A Logical file

A user recognizable group of logically related data or control information.

5.1.5.3 Complexity parameters

The complexity parameters for Sub-category 1.5 are as follows:

- a) Number of unique attributes involved in the EP, that are added/modified/deleted
- b) Number of records configured

5.1.5.4 Calculation method

Identify the complexity level based on #Records. Calculate size based on the constant factor and the #Attributes (see Table 8).

Table 8—SNAP Sizing for delivering added value by data configuration

	Complexity level	Complexity level	Complexity level
	Low	Low	Low
	1–10 records	1–10 records	1–10 records
SP =	$6 \times \text{the number of attributes}$	$8 \times \text{the number of attributes}$	$12 \times \text{the number of attributes}$

NOTE 1—New services, products, price plans etc., can be added to the application by adding or changing reference data and not by writing code.

NOTE 2—Functionality by data configuration brings added value to the user, also adds effort to configure and test the new functionality.

Examples of delivering added value to users by data configuration are as follows:

- a) An application requires granting access to a specific role in the application. To meet this requirement, the developer does not write any separate code and instead updates a configuration file, and associates the user or set of users into some property file(s). Such additions or changes are made to meet user requirements, which affect the functionality at the EP level.
- b) The process to configure the data in the database is not sized separately. Only the user's processes should be counted.
- c) An application requires configuring a new product ("Product X" here below) or a component that can be sold using the application. The new product and its price plan are defined in reference data. The project effort may be creating the data, by migrating it to the reference files and testing that the application functions with the new data. The sizing process identifies many SCUs here.
 - 1) Change product Y to product X.
 - 2) Provide a new product X.
 - 3) Change price of product X, etc.

5.2 Category 2: Interface design

The interface design category relates to the end user experience. This category assesses the design of graphical UI processes and methods that allow the user to interface with the application.

5.2.1 Sub-category 2.1—User interfaces

Unique, user identifiable, independent graphical user interface elements added or configured on the user interface that does not change the functionality of the system but affects non-functional characteristics (such as usability, ease of learning, attractiveness, accessibility).

5.2.1.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

Set of screens as defined by the EP.

5.2.1.2 Terms**5.2.1.2.1 UI element**

UI element (user interface element) is a unique user identifiable structural element that makes up the user interface. It includes elements such as:

- Window (which can be container, child, text or message window)
- Menus
- Icons
- Controls
- Pointer (or mouse cursor)
- Text box
- Button
- Hyperlink
- Drop-down list
- List box
- Combo box
- Checkbox
- Radio button
- Cycle button
- Datagrid
- Tabs
- Interaction elements like a cursor
- Labels

The above controls are used to display or manipulate data objects. The aspect that adds to the complexity of the design, configuration and testing time of a user interface is the configuration of each of these elements. NFR may involve changing the properties of these UI elements. Depending upon the type of the user-interface element, varying number of properties can be configured to produce the desired output. For example, button could be set to “locked” or “highlighted” or “colored” or placed at a particular location on the screen.

5.2.1.2.2 UI element properties

Each UI element is associated with certain properties, which define the behavior and look and feel of the user interface element. The following examples come from Clause 18 of the W3C Recommendation on Cascading Style Sheets [B13]:

- A window would have properties like background color, active border, active caption, etc.
- A button can have properties like button highlight, button text, background color, etc.
- Tool tips can have properties like info text, info background, etc.

5.2.1.2.3 UI element set

A UI element set is the collection of all the UI elements of the same type in the SCU.

Example: All the text boxes in the set of screens (SCU).

5.2.1.3 Complexity parameters

The complexity parameters for Sub-category 2.1 include the following:

- a) The sum of the number of unique properties configured for each UI element in the SCU
- b) The number of unique UI elements impacted

5.2.1.4 SNAP Points (SPs) calculation

Identify the complexity based on the number of properties of UI element set. Calculate size as the product of the constant factor and the number of unique UI elements (See Table 9).

Table 9—SNAP sizing for user interface

	UI Type complexity		
	Low	Average	High
	< 10 properties added or configured	10 to 15 Properties added or configured	16+ Properties added or configured.
SP =	2 × the number of unique UI elements	3 × the number of unique UI elements	4 × the number of unique UI elements

5.2.1.5 Rules

The following rules for Sub-category 2.1 apply:

- If the process for adding/changing of UI is FP counted, then do not duplicate the count; however, changing the contents and appearance of a GUI element needs to be sized as non-functional. Aesthetic changes in UI screen, static or dynamic UI pages, rearranging of the screen and printed reports should be sized under user interfaces sub-category.
- The sets of screens within one process shall be counted as the SCU.

NOTE 1—UI elements added may be of any form, such as text, sound, picture, logos, color, keys, controls, navigation, animating or enabling/disabling the above (when such enabling/disabling is not functional).

NOTE 2—Added operations that support: function keys; auto fill; short cut keys; common keys; navigation screen/page level.

NOTE 3—Screens that are not considered as functional (such as Administrator’s screens) and hence are not counted using FPs, are counted by SNAP using 2.1—User Interfaces Sub-category.

Example:

Some text on users’ screens is hard coded. Due to a new policy of the company, the request is to replace the word “customer” with the words: “business partner.”

The analysis found that the word “customer” should be replaced in the following UI elements (note that since SNAP counts the number of unique UI elements, there is no need to estimate the number of occurrences of each unique UI element).

- SCU 1: Acquire a new business partner: header, labels, radio button, drop-down list
- SCU 2: Modify details of a business partner: header, labels
- SCU 3: Send a message to a business partner: header, labels,
- SCU 4: Cease services to a business partner: header, labels

Changing the text in these UI elements is considered one property. UI type complexity is low.

$SP = 2 \times$ the number of unique UI elements per each SCU:

$$SP = 2 \times (4 + 2 + 2 + 2) = 20 \text{ SP}$$

5.2.2 Sub-category 2.2—Help methods

Information provided to the users, which explains how the software provides its functionality or other supportive information provided to users.

5.2.2.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The Help Object (see 5.2.2.2.1).

5.2.2.2 Terms

5.2.2.2.1 Help Object

A “Help Object” is a particular part of the software for which the Help Item is provided.

5.2.2.2.2 Help Item

A “Help Item” is the smallest, unique, user identifiable information topic, which provides the user with supportive information or details about a particular part of the software.

Examples of Help Objects can be a DET in an EP, a report, a static web page, an icon or a picture on a screen. A few examples are described in the Table 10.

Table 10—Examples of Help Objects and Help Items

Help Object	Help Item example
A report	A framed text explaining how to interpret a report, which is displayed by pressing a “?” mark near the header of the report
A DET (e.g., an attribute entered or displayed, a control)	A pop-up text box which is displayed when hovering over a field
A menu item	A pop-up text box which is displayed when hovering over a field
A static web page (a static web page is one that is delivered to all the users exactly as stored, displaying the same information to all users, and is not generated by an application).	The static web page
A link to an explanation page (e.g., to a “Change password” screen, explaining how to select a strong password)	A Section in the “Help” window, explaining the rules for a password strength
A screen	A framed text explaining the purpose of the EI
A link or an icon to open a multimedia item such as a voice message or a movie*	A movie
An FAQ	The FAQ text

*SNAP does not refer to the size and the costs to produce the multimedia item, only the size for addressing those Help Items in the software.

5.2.2.3 Complexity parameters

The inclusion of screenshots in the Help Item.

5.2.2.4 SP calculation

Count the number of Help Objects and divide by 16 to calculate the SPs. However, if there is at least one screen shot accompanying the Help Object, count the number of Help Objects, divide by 16, and add 2 (see Table 11).

Table 11—SNAP sizing for Help Items

	With no screen shots	With at least one screen shot
SP =	$\frac{\text{\# of Help Objects}}{16}$	$\frac{\text{\# of Help Objects} + 2}{16}$

NOTE 1—The media type of the Help Item is immaterial for SNAP. For example, information provided to the user may be provided by a drop down, static web page, paper, or other media type. However, if the referenced Help Objects are the same, then the SNAP size of each media type is the same.

NOTE 2—Do not count multiple instances of the same Help Items, regardless of media type, with the exception of a general user Help Manual. A general user Help Manual is countable in itself.

NOTE 3—Do not add SNAP size for Help that is a help data function per ISO/IEC 20926:2009 (IFPUG FSM).

NOTE 4—This standard does not currently attempt to size help delivered by a person or persons (i.e., help that is not part of the automated software being delivered). This includes phone calls to a help desk, chat rooms, forms of video conferencing, training programs, etc. It also does not address any form of help provided by online videos or similar products. It does not address help for an index, glossary, table of contents, etc.

Examples:

Below is a hypothetical screen representing an EI for students registering for a University summer program. Three examples of help are identified for this screen (EI) as described in examples 1, 2, and 3. The following examples refer to Figure 3 to Figure 7.

Last name:	XXXXXXX	Residency address:	XXXXX
First name:	XXXXXXX	Building	XXXXX
Room #	XXXXXXX	Telephone #	XXXXX
Courses registered for: XXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXX			
Home address:			
# and street	XXXXXXXXXX		
City	XXXXXXXXXX		
State	XX		
ZIP	XXXXX		
ENTER		ERROR MESSAGE	

Figure 3—A screen example

Example 1—Screen-level help

Suppose that help is provided which describes the help is provided describing the purpose of the screen as a whole but does not go into detail about the meaning of the individual fields (or DETs). The screen is the “Help Object” and the information provided which explains the purpose of the screen is the “Help Item.” The non-functional size of the help is based on the number of Help Objects affected. We count one “Help Object” in this example.

Example 2—Pop-up text box help

A pop-up text box is displayed when hovering over each of the fields that provided information for the meaning of the corresponding field. This includes the ENTER key and the ERROR MESSAGE DET. In this situation, each DET is a Help Object and each pop-up text box is an individual Help Item. If the user recognizes 14 DETs here, there are 14 Help Objects for this example.

Example 3—User manual help

A user manual provides information for the meaning of the 14 DETs; this includes the ENTER key and the ERROR MESSAGE DET. In addition, a screen shot of this input screen is included in the User Manual to aid in the explanation. In this situation, count 14 Help Objects and count one screen shot. A screen shot was also found to correlate with work effort to develop help.

Example 4. Help for other SNAP subcategories.

Under SNAP 1.2, Logical and Mathematical Operations, SNAP recognizes an algorithm containing 16 countable DETs under SNAP rules. Help is provided which describes the theory of this algorithm in detail to include how the algorithm uses each of these 16 DETs. Count 16 Help Objects for the algorithm. Suppose this help is provided as several pages of text in a user’s manual. Then this text is one Help Item addressing 16 Help Objects.

Example 5—Menu help

Pop-up balloon help is provided for buttons at the top of a word processor screen, such as the “Bold” button or the “Italics” button. Count one Help Object for each button having balloon help and count 1/16 SP for each Help Object.

Example 6—Login screen help

An application has a typical login screen that requires a username, password, and other fields of data, countable using FPs as five DETs. A Help Item is provided in the user manual, which describes the general purpose of the of the login screen but does not provide any significant detail on what each of the DETs mean or about the data validation logic incorporated in the login process. Count one Help Object for the login screen as a whole, and 1/16 SP.

Example 7—Help in the form of a video

An icon is added to a login screen as described in Example 6, in which an instructor explains the general purpose of the screen and how to fill the 5 fields. Count 1 Help Object for the general explanation and 5 Help Objects for the explained fields, which provides 6/16 SPs.

NOTE—There are many cases in which adding a Help Item involves UI effort. In such cases, it is not expected to size this activity twice, as SPs for help sub-category and additional SPs for user interfaces. When the primary intent of the activity is creating Help Item, only the help methods sub-category should be counted.

5.2.3 Sub-category 2.3—Multiple input methods

The ability of the application to provide its functionality while accepting multiple input methods

5.2.3.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The EP.

5.2.3.2 Terms**5.2.3.2.1 Input method**

A technique or media type, which is used to deliver data into the assessed application, such as bar code reader, fax, pdf, office document, screen, voice message, SMS, smart mobile device, etc.

The assessed application may need to identify the input method in order to interpret and use the received information.

5.2.3.3 Complexity parameters

- The number of data element types (DETs) in the SCU
- The number of additional input methods

5.2.3.4 SNAP Points (SPs) calculation

Identify the complexity based on the number of DETs. Calculate SP based on the constant factor and the number of input methods (see [Table 12](#)).

Table 12—SNAP sizing for multiple input methods

	Input methods complexity		
	Low	Average	High
	1–4 DETs	5–15 DETs	16+ DETs
SP =	3 × the number of additional input methods	4 × the number of additional input methods	6 × the number of additional input methods

5.2.3.5 Rules

This category should be used to when there are multiple types of inputs used to invoke the same functionality. If the different input types differ in terms of DETs, FTRs, and processing logic, then they would already have been accounted as separate functions in FP counting process.

If they are same, then multiple input methods should be used.

Check the following:

- Approach taken for FP counting - single instance or multiple instance.
- The multiple methods of input for the same functionality (same DETs, FTRs and processing logic) have not been included for FP size calculation. In other words, if the FP count has been done using single instance approach for different media types, then the additional input method of same data entry needs to be accounted for using SNAP. For example, the same input can be provided via a smart phone or a web screen.

If multiple input methods are already accounted for in the FP count or the multiple instance approach has been taken for FP counting, then it should be excluded from the SNAP assessment.

Example:

See Example in 5.2.4.

5.2.4 Sub-category 2.4—Multiple output methods

The ability of the application to provide its functionality while using multiple output methods.

5.2.4.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The EP.

5.2.4.2 Terms**5.2.4.2.1 Output method**

A technique or media type, which is used to deliver data from the assessed application, such as Fax, PDF, Office document, screen, voice message, SMS etc.

The assessed application may need to manipulate the sent information in order to send it to the various outputs.

5.2.4.2.2 Complexity parameters

- The number of DETs in the SCU
- The number of additional output methods

5.2.4.3 SNAP Points (SPs) calculation

Identify the complexity based on the number of DETs. Calculate size based on the constant factor and the number of output methods (see Table 13).

Table 13—SNAP sizing for multiple output methods

	Output Methods complexity		
	Low	Average	High
	1–5 DETs	6–19 DETs	20+ DETs
SP =	$3 \times$ the number of additional output methods	$4 \times$ the number of additional output methods	$6 \times$ the number of additional output methods

NOTE—When counting a new development project, the number of output methods should include the additional ones only, assuming one of the output methods is the base method. For example, if the new development uses four output methods, the number of additional output methods is three.

5.2.4.4 Rules

This category should be used to when there are multiple types of outputs used for the same functionality. If the different output types vary in terms of DETs, FTRs, and processing logic, then they would already have been counted as separate functions in function point counting process.

If they are same, then multiple output methods should be used.

Check the following:

- Approach taken for FPA—Single instance or multiple instance.
- The multiple methods of output for the same functionality (same DETs, FTRs, and processing logic) have not been included for FP size calculation. In other words, if the FP count has been done using single instance approach for different media types, then the additional output method of same data entry needs to be accounted for using SNAP.
- For example, the same output can be provided to a smart phone or to a web screen.
- If multiple output methods are already accounted for in the FP count or the multiple instance approach has been taken for FP counting, then it should be excluded from the SNAP assessment

Example:

A banking software application supports five different processes (in FP terms EPs): Create Account, Modify Account, Make Payment, End-of-Day (EOD) Account Creation summary report, EOD Credit Debit report.

At present, the three EPs of 'Create Account,' 'Modify Account,' and 'Make Payment' take input by keying in data from the keyboard. The bank wants to enhance the software to be able to accept input for these three processes in the form of scanned documents and by reading a barcode as well.

(The “Create Account” and “Modify Account” processes 20 DETs each, and “Make Payment” process processes 15 DETs).

The “EOD Account Creation Summary Report” and “EOD Credit Debit Report” are currently sent out in printed CSV format. The bank wants to enhance the software to be able to produce the output for these processes in the form of printed PDF as well as inline mail to the recipients.

(The EOD Account Creation Summary Report has 15 DETs and EOD Credit Debit Report has 10 DETs).

The design solution for this requirement involves two subcategories: 2.3 (multiple input methods, see Table 14) and 2.4 (multiple output methods, see Table 15).

Table 14—Example: SNAP sizing for multiple input methods

2.3 Multiple input methods					
No.	SCU Description	Complexity Level	# Additional Input Methods	Formula	SP =
1	Create Account	High	2	$6 \times \text{the additional input methods}$	12
2	Modify Account	High	2	$6 \times \text{the additional input methods}$	12
3	Make Payment	Average	2	$4 \times \text{the additional input methods}$	8

Table 15—Example: SNAP sizing for multiple output methods

2.4 Multiple Output Methods					
No.	SCU Description	Complexity Level	# Additional Output Methods	Formula	SP =
4	EOD Account Creation Summary Report	Average	2	$4 \times \text{the additional input methods}$	8
5	EOD Credit Debit Report	Average	2	$4 \times \text{the additional input methods}$	8

Total SNAP size for the project = $\sum$ SP for Sub-category 2.3 + $\sum$ SP for Sub-category 2.4 = 12 + 12 + 8 + 8 + 8 = 48

5.3 Category 3: Technical environment

The technical environment category relates to aspects of the environment where the application resides. It assesses technology as well as changes to internal data and configuration that do not provide added or changed functionality from a function points perspective

5.3.1 Sub category 3.1: Multiple platforms

Operations that are provided to support the ability of the software to work on more than one platform. In order for software to be considered multi-platform, it should be able to function on more than one computer architecture or operating system. This can be a time-consuming task given that different operating systems have different application programming interfaces or APIs (for example, Linux uses a different API for application software than Windows does).

5.3.1.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The EP.

5.3.1.2 Terms

Computing platform includes a hardware architecture and a software framework (including application frameworks), where the combination allows software, particularly applications software, to run. Typical platforms include a computer's architecture, operating system, programming languages and related user interface (run-time system libraries or graphical user interface).

Software Platforms: Software Platform is a framework used for the software application development. Different programming languages can be grouped into several platforms based on the programming language family.

A programming language can belong to a particular software language family like the following:

- Object Oriented: Java, C++, C#, Javascript, Python, Smaltalk, VB, VB.NET etc
- Procedural: C, FORTRAN, PHP, COBOL etc.
- Declarative: SQL, XQuery, BPEL, XSLT, XML etc.

Hardware Platforms: A hardware platform can refer to a computer's architecture or processor architecture. For example, the x86 and x86-64 CPUs make up one of the most common computer architectures in use in general-purpose home computers

5.3.1.3 Complexity parameters

The complexity parameters for Sub-category 3.1 include the following:

- Nature of platforms (i.e., software, hardware)
- Numbers of platforms to operate

5.3.1.4 Calculation method

Identify the different software and hardware platforms involved and the number of platforms to operate. Calculate size based on the platform category row from Table 16 below and the number of platforms. If more than one row is applicable, then the size is the sum of constant factors obtained from each category applicable.

Table 16—SNAP sizing for multiple platforms

	SP =		
	2 platforms	3 platforms	4+ platforms
Category 1: Software Platforms: Same Software Family	20	30	40
Category 2: Software Platforms: Different Family	40*	60*	80*
Category 3: Software Platforms: Different Browsers	10	20	30
Category 4: Hardware Platforms: Real time embedded systems	TBD**	TBD**	TBD**
Category 5: Hardware Platforms: Non-Real time embedded systems	TBD**	TBD**	TBD**
Category 6: Combination of Hardware and Software: Non-Real time embedded systems	TBD**	TBD**	TBD**

*For category 2: Software platforms: Different family, count number of different families (2 families, 3 families, 4+ families).

**TBD: To be defined.

5.3.1.5 Platform examples

The following are examples of platforms from Table 16:

- Software Platform: .NET, Java
- Operating System Platform: MS Windows, Linux, IBM/Microsoft Operating System 2, Mac OS
- Hardware Platform: Mainframe computers, Midrange computers, RISC processors, Mobile device architecture, Mac systems.
- Browsers: Internet Explorer, Firefox, Google Chrome, etc.

NOTE 1—Working on one platform is a basic requisite for the system to operate; therefore, a single platform does not generate SPs using this sub-category.

NOTE 2—Building the software on multiple platforms generates SPs for two platforms or more according to Table 16.

NOTE 3—Software platforms can be added or removed, not changed. For example, upgrading from Firefox 3.1.x to 3.2.a is considered as adding a platform, not changing one.

NOTE 4—Upgrading a software platform from one version to another is counted as adding a platform only. The old platform is not counted as deleted nor as changed.

NOTE 5—When adding or removing platforms during an enhancement project, size the multiple platform sub-category for each impacted SCU at the end of the enhancement project and use that as the SNAP size for the enhancement.

NOTE 6—For enhancement projects, count the total number of platforms after the project is complete and use that to calculate SNAP size (do not size the changes, additions or deletions of platforms during the enhancement project).

NOTE 7—When adding a mixture of platforms from different categories, count SPs for each platforms category.

Examples of multiple platforms include the following:

a) Example 1

Two platforms of Family 1 and 2 platforms of Family 2:

Use category 1 (similar platforms) for each software family (20SP for the two platforms of family 1) + (20SP for the two platforms of family 2)

Use category 2 (different platforms)—SPs for 2 different platform families (= 40 SP)

b) Example 2

Three platforms of Family 1 and 2 platforms of Family 2:

Use category 1 (similar platforms) for each software family (30SP for the 3 platforms of family 1) + (20SP for the two platforms of family 2)

Use category 2 (different platforms)—SPs for 2 different platform families (= 40 SP)

c) Example 3

Three platforms of Family 1 and 1 platform of Family 2:

Use category 1 (similar platforms) for each applicable software family (30SP for the 3 platforms of family 1) + (0 SP for the 1 platform of family 2)

Use category 2 (different platforms)—SPs for 2 different platform families (= 40 SP)

d) Example 4

Three platforms of Family 1, 1 platform of Family 2 and 2 browsers:

Use category 1 (similar platforms) for each software family (30SP for the 3 platforms of family 1) + (0 SP for the platform of family 2)

Use category 2 (different platforms) - SPs for 2 different platform families (= 40 SP)

Use Category 3 for the browsers support (10 SP)

If an application is built on JAVA and COBOL and requires multiple (more than 4) browser support, then SNAP size would be 40 SP per each SCU that is built on both Java and Cobol, (Java and COBOL are considered as a different family plus 30 SP per each SCU that is to work on multiple browsers

NOTE—Currently the platforms considered in the calibration of the model are only software type platforms.

Please note that this category should be used only if the same set of functionality is being delivered on multiple platforms. This is the case where business functionality is the same but it needs to be delivered in two different environments. For example, same application functions are built on JAVA and also on VC++ to suit client requirements, and then this category can be used.

If the architectural framework itself consists of different platforms to deliver part of the functionality, then this category should not be used. This is a usual case where different technical components interact with each other to deliver application functions. No duplication of effort takes place to rebuild the same functionality in a different environment.

5.3.2 Sub category 3.2: Database technology

Features and operations that are added to the database or to the statements to read/write data to and from the database to deliver NFR without affecting the functionality that is provided

5.3.2.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The EP.

5.3.2.2 Terms

5.3.2.2.1 Database changes

Each of the following sub items is considered as one change.

- a) Creating or changing a business table or a reference table, such as:
 - 1) Adding tables or adding columns for non-functional purposes only
 - 2) Rearranging the order of column in a table
 - 3) Changing or adding relationships using referential integrity features
 - 4) Changing the primary key without dropping and adding the primary key
- b) Creating or updating code data table
 - 1) Adding tables or adding columns for non-functional purposes only
 - 2) Rearranging the order of column in a table
 - 3) Changing the primary key without dropping and adding the primary key

- c) Adding, deleting or changing an index, such as:
 - 1) Changing the columns used for indexing
 - 2) Changing the uniqueness specification of an index
 - 3) Clustering the table data by a different index
 - 4) Changing the order of an index (ascending or descending)
- d) Adding or changing database views (see definitions) and partitions, such as:
 - 1) Changing or adding database partitioning
 - 2) Adding, changing or removing a database view
- e) Changing database capacity, such as:
 - 1) Tables' space
 - 2) Enhancing the performance features
- f) Changing a query or insert, such as changes to queries or data selection or inserts to the database without adding, deleting or changing functionality. For example, changing the primary key and adding relationship is counted as one change

5.3.2.3 Complexity parameters

Complexity parameters for Sub-category 3.2 include the following:

- FTR complexity
- The number of database-related changes

Changes to the database might be done for any non-functional requirement such as performance, capacity management, data integrity etc. The complexity of implementing any such change would depend on the complexity of the Logical File as well as the # of changes (see Table 17).

Table 17—FTR complexity, database technology

		DETs		
		1–19	20–50	> 50
Record element types (RETs)	1	Low	Low	Average
	2–5	Low	Average	High
	>5	Average	High	High

5.3.2.4 Calculation method

Calculate size as the product of the constant factor and the number of changes (Table 18)

Table 18—SNAP sizing for database technology

	FTR Complexity Factor		
	Low	Low	Low
SP=	$6 \times \text{the number of changes}$	$9 \times \text{the number of changes}$	$12 \times \text{the number of changes}$

If there are multiple FTRs being impacted for the NFR, which are all impacting the same EP, then the higher complexity of the FTR should only be considered as the Complexity Factor, not the individual FTRs separately.

In such a case, perform the following steps:

- Identify the impacted FTRs for the EP
- Determine the complexity of the FTRs impacted
- Choose the highest complexity

NOTE—Use this sub-category for new development/new requirement as well as enhancement. For a new development or new requirement, separate the requirement into its functional aspects and its non-functional aspects.

Examples:

An EP “Create Order” is designed for performance improvement. To achieve this, a “read-only” database view is created on “Customer” FTR having 18 DETs and 3 record element types (RETs) (FTR complexity is “Low”).

In addition, an index is created on “Order Placed” FTR having 30 DET and 3 RET (FTR complexity is “Average”).

The highest FTR complexity is “Average”; therefore, for the two changes:

$$SP = 9 \times 2 = 18$$

5.3.3 Sub category 3.3: Batch processes

Batch jobs that are not considered as functional requirements (they do not qualify as a transactional function) can be considered in SNAP. This sub-category allows for the sizing of batch processes, which are triggered within the boundary of the application, not resulting in any data crossing the boundary.

NFR associated with batch jobs such as improving the job completion time, increasing the capacity of the job to process higher volumes of transactions, or performance improvement requirements may be sized using SNAP Sub-categories 3.2, 1.1, or 1.2, as applicable.

However, if an NFR related to batch processing is not covered under these sub-categories, it may be considered in Sub-category 3.3.

5.3.3.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

User identified batch job.

NOTE—When several batch jobs are automated (run always as a whole) and only the end result is user identifiable, count these batch jobs as an individual SCU

5.3.3.2 Complexity parameters

The complexity parameters for Sub-category 3.3 are as follows:

- Number of DETs processed by the job
- Number of FTRs either read or updated by the job

5.3.3.3 Calculation method

For each user identified job, identify the complexity level by counting the number of FTRs read or updated. Calculate size as per Table 19.

Table 19—SNAP sizing for batch processes

	Complexity level		
	Low (1–3 FTR)	Average (4–9 FTR)	High (10+ FTR)
SP =	4 × the number of DETs	6 × the number of DETs	10 × the number of DETs

NOTE—User specified one-time data loads to logical tables, can be counted using this category. Please note that these data loads should not be migration-related data loads, which are counted as conversion FP using function points.

Examples:

- a) Different processes are merged into one batch: count the DETs and FTRs in the merged batch
- b) Intermediate data for job validation that are in code data
- c) Scheduler data instructs to perform subsequent process steps, which are in code data

5.4 Category 4: Architecture

The architecture category relates to the design and coding techniques utilized to build and enhance the application. It assesses the complexities of modular and/or component-based development.

5.4.1 Sub category 4.1: Component-based software

Pieces of software used within the boundary of the assessed application to integrate with previously existing software or to build components in the system.

5.4.1.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The EP.

5.4.1.2 Terms

5.4.1.2.1 A Software component

A piece of software offering a predefined service and which is able to communicate with other components via standard interfaces.

An individual software component is a software package, a Web service, or a module that encapsulates a set of related functions (or data). The essence of a “component” is the encapsulation of business logic or technical functionality that admits a standard interface. The software component is the element that conforms to a component model and can be independently deployed and composed without modification, according to a composition standard. A component model defines specific interaction and composition standards. A component model implementation is the dedicated set of executable software elements required to support the execution of components that conform to the model.

Criteria for software components:

- a) Performs a specific functionality
- b) Capable of parallel execution: multiple-use
- c) Exchangeable: Non-context-specific
- d) Composable with other components (can be selected and assembled in various combinations to satisfy specific user requirements)
- e) Encapsulated i.e., non-investigable through its interfaces
- f) A unit of independent deployment and versioning with well-defined interfaces and communicates via interfaces only
- g) Has a structure and behavior that conforms to a component model like COM, CORBA, SUN Java, etc.

Example: Figure 4 shows simple components interacting with each other (source: Wikipedia).

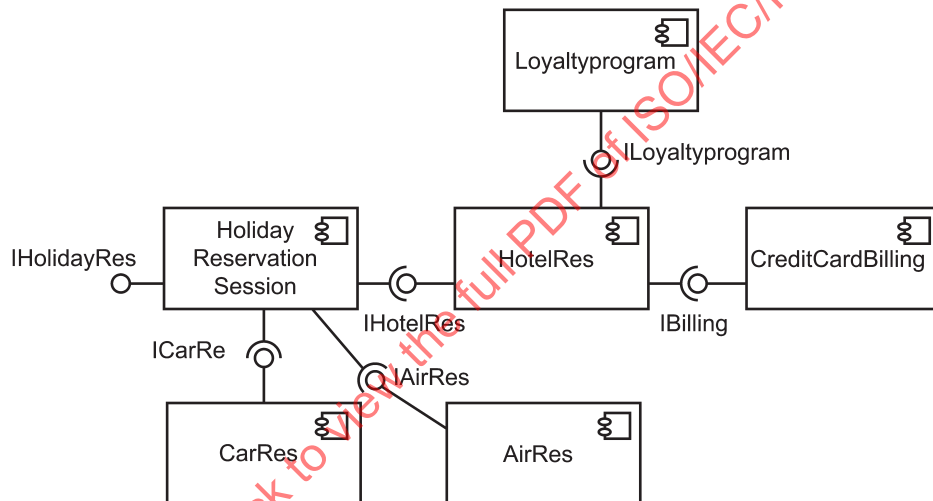


Figure 4—Components model for holiday reservation system

5.4.1.3 Complexity parameters

The complexity parameters for Sub-category 4.1 include the following:

- Third-party component or in-house reuse
- The Number of unique components that are involved in the EP

5.4.1.4 SNAP Points (SPs) calculation

Calculate size based on the constant factor and the number of unique components as per Table 20.

Table 20—SNAP sizing for component-based software

Type	SPs calculation
In-house components	$SP = 3 \times \text{the number of unique components}$
Third party components	$SP = 4 \times \text{the number of unique components}$

NOTE 1—This sub-category does not size the functionality of the component. Follow the instructions of ISO/IEC 20926:2009 to count the functional size of the components.

NOTE 2—Reuse of components may be applied to meet NFR such as maintainability (“the capability of the software product to adhere to standards or conventions relating to maintainability”), changeability, maturity or replaceability.

5.4.2 Sub-category 4.2—Multiple input/output interfaces

Applications required supporting multiple inputs and outputs interfaces (user files with the same format) are covered in this subcategory. For example: due to a growing number of users and volume of data over a period of time.

Adding more input/output interfaces without changing the functionality is not considered functional change and hence such changes are not sized by FP. This sub-category should be used to size such changes in an application.

NOTE—If the project/organization considers adding new input/output interfaces as a functional change, then function points would be used for sizing, and SNAP should not be used.

5.4.2.1 SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The EP.

5.4.2.2 Complexity parameters

The complexity parameters for Sub-category 4.2 include the following:

- The number of DETs in the SCU
- The number of additional input and output interfaces

NOTE—Count the number of additional input and output interfaces

5.4.2.3 SP calculation

Identify the complexity based on the number of DETs in the SCU.

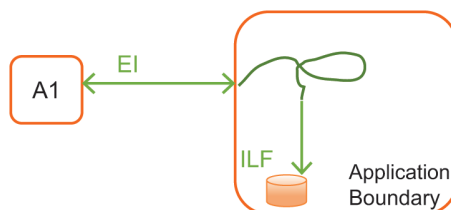
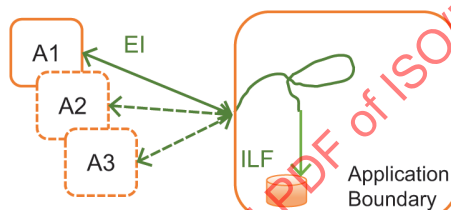
The size is the product of the factor derived from the number of DETs specified in Table 21 and the number of added interfaces.

Table 21—SNAP sizing for Multiple Input /Output Interfaces

	Complexity Level		
	Low	Average	High
	1–5 DETs	6–19 DETs	20+ DETs
SP =	$3 \times \text{the additional number of interfaces}$	$4 \times \text{the additional number of interfaces}$	$6 \times \text{the additional number of interfaces}$

Examples

- a) Example 1: Adding interfaces to external application A1 without adding or changing the functionality. One SCU is shown in Figure 5, data flows to and from the boundary.

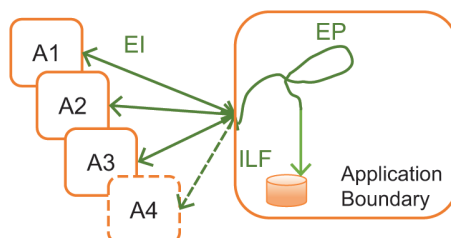
**Figure 5—Example 1, before the change****Figure 6—Example 1, after the change**

NOTE—Dotted lines in Figure 6 through Figure 9 indicate the change to the existing configuration as follows:

- The number of DETs in the EP = 6 (average complexity)
- Two additional interfaces
- $SP = 4 \times 2 \text{ interfaces} = 8$

- b) Example 2: After the change in Example 1 was delivered, it is required to add another interface to external applications A1, A2, A3.

One SCU is shown in Figure 7, data flows to and from the boundary.

**Figure 7—Example 2, after the second change**

- The number of DETs in the EP = 6 (average complexity)
 - One additional interface
 - $SP = 4 \times 1$ interfaces = 4
- c) Example 3: Adding interfaces to external applications A1 and B1 without adding or changing the functionality
- Two SCUs are shown in Figure 8, data flows to and from the boundary.

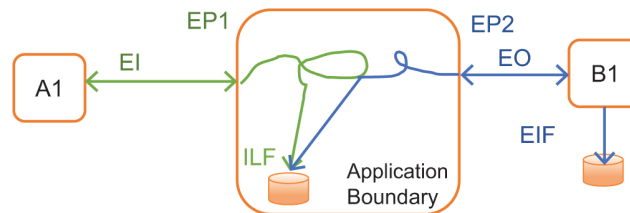


Figure 8—Example 3, before the change

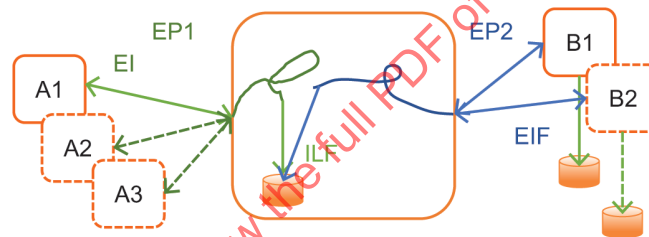


Figure 9—Example 3, after the change

The number of DETs in EP1 flowing to and from application A1 = 5 and the number of DETs in the EP2 flowing to and from application B1 = 8.

SCU 1 = EP1

- 5 DETs = Low
- 2 Additional interfaces
- $SP = 3 \times 2$ interface = 6

SCU 2 = EP2

- 8 DETs = Average
- 1 Additional interface
- $SP = 4 \times 1$ interface = 4

$SP = 6 + 4 = 10$

- d) Example 4: Adding interfaces to external application A1 without adding or changing the functionality, two SCUs (see Figure 10 and Figure 11)

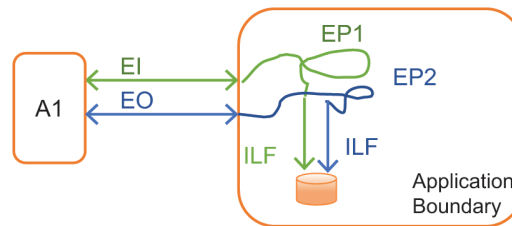


Figure 10—Example 4, before the change

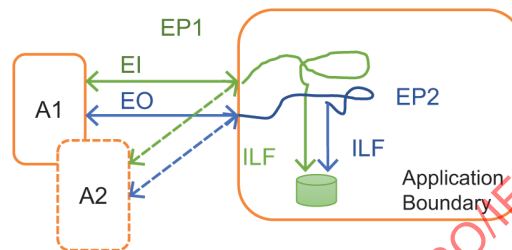


Figure 11—Example 4, after the change

The number of DETs in the EI = 5 and in the EO = 10

SCU 1 = EP1

— 5 DETs = Low

— 1 Additional interface

— $SP = 3 \times 1 \text{ interface} = 3$

SCU 2 = EP2

— 10 DETs = Average

— 1 Additional interface

— $SP = 4 \times 1 = 4$

Total $SP = 3 + 4 = 7$

NOTE—A key difference between this sub-category and 2.3 / 2.4 multiple input /output methods is that in 4.2, the existing interface is replicated with the same technology to give all users the same level of performance and same experience.

5.5 Sizing code data

Code data is a type of data entities, used for software sizing (in addition to business data and reference data).

According to ISO/IEC 20926:2009, “code data” usually exists to satisfy NFR from the user (for quality requirements, physical implementation and/or a technical reason).

The user does not always directly specify code data (sometimes referred to as “list data” or “translation data”). In other cases, it is identified by the developer in response to one or more NFR.

Code data provides a list of valid values that a descriptive attribute may have. Typically, the attributes of the code data are code, description and/or other 'standard' attributes describing the code (e.g., standard abbreviation, effective date, termination date, audit trail data, etc.). The different categories of data are outlined below to assist in identification.

When codes are used in the business data, it is necessary to have a means of translating to convert the code into something more recognizable to the user. In order to satisfy NFR, developers often create one or more tables containing the code data. Logically, the code and its related description have the same meaning. Without a description, the code may not always be clearly understood.

The key differences between code data and reference data are:

- With code data, one can substitute one for the other without changing the meaning of the business data; e.g., airport-code versus airport-name, color-ID versus color-description.
- With reference data, one cannot substitute (e.g., tax code with the tax-rate).

5.5.1 Code data characteristics

Code data has most of the characteristics outlined in the following subclauses.

5.5.1.1 Logical

Logical characteristics include:

- Data is mandatory to the functional area but optionally stored as a data file
- Not usually identified as part of the FUR; it is usually identified as part of the design to meet NFR
- Sometimes user maintainable (usually by a user support person)
- Stores data to standardize and facilitate business activities and business transactions
- Essentially static—only changes in response to changes in the way that the business operates
- Business transactions access code data to improve ease of data entry, improve data consistency, check data integrity, etc.
- If recognized by the user
 - is sometimes considered as a group of the same type of data
 - could be maintained using the same processing logic

5.5.1.2 Physical

Physical characteristics include:

- Consists of key field and usually one or two attributes only
 - Typically has a stable number of records
 - Can represent 50% of all entities in third normal form
 - Sometimes de-normalized and placed in one physical table with other code data
 - May be implemented in different ways (e.g., via a separate application, data dictionary, or hard-coded within the software)

Examples

Examples of code data include:

- a) State
 - 1) State code
 - 2) State name
- b) Payment type
 - 1) Payment type code
 - 2) Payment description

5.5.2 Handling code data from non-functional sizing perspective

For the purpose of FPA, code data cannot be counted as logical files. They are not considered as Internal Logical File (ILF) or External Interface File (EIF), and cannot be considered Record Element Types (RETs) or DETs on an ILF or EIF. Code data cannot be considered a File Types Referenced (FTR) while assessing the complexity of a transactional function (EI, EO, and External Inquiry—EQ).

For the purpose of SNAP, code data which is maintained within the application boundary by use of screens or by formal enhancement requests by the customer is counted as follows:

- Irrespective of the number of code data physical tables, the code data would be grouped as 1 data group (1 FTR) under SNAP
- Code data is classified as in Table 22,

Table 22—Types of code data

Substitution	Static or constant	Valid values
Code + Description	One occurrence Static Data Default value	Valid Values Range of valid values

For SNAP analysis of the complexity of code data group, the number of RETs of the code table would depend upon the type of occurrences of code data types.

Example

In a banking application, the following code tables were created:

- Table 1: Having state name and state code
- Table 2: Having branch code, branch name, branch city
- Table 3: Having one single data entry of the bank name and logo, which is used for printing letterheads

Three types of occurrences exist for code data:

- Substitution—Table 1 having state code and state name, Table 2 having branch code and branch name
- Valid values—Table 2 having a range of bank branch cities
- Static data—Table 3 having one single data entry of the bank name and logo, which is used for printing letterheads

Hence the number of RETs for the code data group is 3.

NOTE—If the data is not of the above code data sub types, then it may be the data in system tables and not the application tables required for supporting business. This is not sized under code data.

5.5.3 How code data is sized using SNAP

Count the creation/maintenance and the utilization of code data.

The creation of code data is always counted as “3.2: Database technology.”

The maintenance of code data is checked under the following subcategories depending on the case applicable:

- If the code data is maintained in hard coded tables that are not viewable via screens, but can be updated by the administrator using script/code change in response to a formal user request, then it is counted using Sub-category 3.2: Database technology. For example, a code table has the bank name and logo stored as static data, which is referred by different processes. When a change request is raised to modify the logo, then it is sized using this category.
- When the code data is used for reasons such as entry validations, data formatting, batch process management, any changes to code data values (add/change/delete) should be counted using the proper sub-category.

The utilization of code data is counted in the following sub-categories, according to the purpose of the data: “1.1 Data Entry Validation”; “1.2 Logical and Mathematical Operations”; “1.3 Data Formatting”; “1.5 Delivering Added Value to Users by Data Configuration”; and “3.3 Batch Processes.”

When NFR use code data and transactions cross partitions, Sub-category “1.4 Internal Data Movements” should be used.

Examples of SNAP sizing of code data are shown in Table 23.

Table 23—Example of SNAP sizing of code data

Examples:	Sub-categories for utilizing code data
Create a code data table for address validation	1.1 Data Entry Validation for enabling the validation 3.2 Database Technology for code table creation
Same as above. The screens with the address are on the Front-End application, the data is in the Back-End application	1.1 Data Entry Validation for enabling the validation 3.2 Database Technology for code table creation 1.4 Internal Data Movements
Using multi-language screens, the translation is in new code data tables	1.3 Data Formatting 3.2 Database Technology for code table creation
Add scheduling data to perform batch files	3.3 Batch Processes 3.2 Database Technology for code table creation

6. The sizing process

The non-functional sizing process uses the collection of information, which is needed for defining what is measured and then measuring its non-functional size.

The sizing process contains the following steps:

- a) Gather available documentation

- b) Determine the purpose, scope, boundary, and partition of the measurement
- c) Identify the NFR
- d) Associate NFR with sub-categories and identify the SCU
- e) Determine the SNAP size for each sub-category
- f) Calculate non-functional size
- g) Document and report

6.1 The timing of the non-functional sizing

Non-functional sizing can be assessed at any time in the development lifecycle to aid in project estimating, monitoring project change of scope, and evaluating delivered NFR.

Prior to beginning a non-functional sizing, users should determine whether they approximate or measure the size, and document any assumptions.

Approximating permits assumptions to be made about unknown non-functional aspects, to determine an approximate non-functional size.

Measuring includes the identification of all applicable non-functional sub-categories and their complexity.

At an early stage, NFR may not be fully defined. Despite the disadvantages, this sizing can be useful to produce an early estimate. Uses of the non-functional sizing for approximating or measuring non-functional size at the various life cycle phases are presented in [Table 24](#).

Table 24—The timing of approximating or measuring the non-functional size

Life cycle phase	SPs can be approximated	SPs can be measured
Proposal: users express needs and intentions	Yes	No
Requirements: developers and users review and agree upon expression of user needs and intentions	Yes	No
Design: developers may include elements for implementation	Yes	Yes
Construction	Yes	Yes
Delivery	Yes	Yes
Maintenance (adaptive, perfective, or preventive)	Yes	Yes

NOTE—No specific development life cycle is implied. The lifecycle phases above may be used as steps of any software development lifecycle

6.2 Non-functional sizing and FSM

Non-functional size can be used in conjunction with functional size to provide an overall view of the project or application including both functional and non-functional sizing.

[Figure 12](#) describes the joint process.

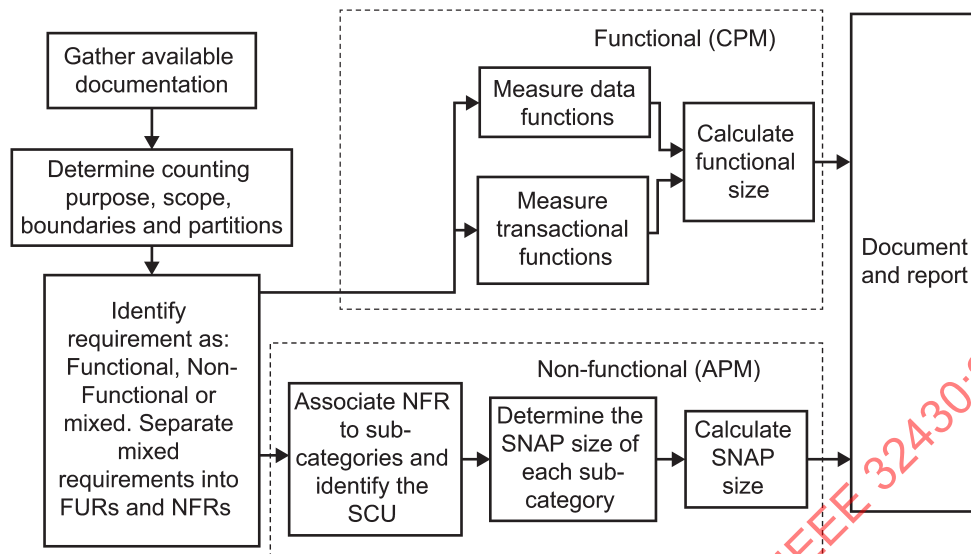


Figure 12—The sizing process

The steps listed in 6.3 describe the non-functional sizing process.

6.3 Steps to determine the non-functional size

6.3.1 Step 1: Gather available documentation

Documentation to support the measurement process describe the NFR delivered by the software or the non-functional aspects that are impacted by the software project that is being measured. Non-functional characteristics may also be embedded in the functional documentation.

Sufficient documentation, or access to subject matter experts, who are able to provide additional information to address gaps in the documentation, should be obtained. Standards and International guidelines (such as WCAG 2.1 accessibility guidelines [B15]) should be considered if applicable.

NOTE 1—NFR may be implicit or explicit. When not explicitly specified, verify that expectations are understood and documented.

NOTE 2—NFR are subjected to configuration management.

6.3.2 Step 2: Determine the sizing purpose, scope, boundary, and partition

Subclauses 6.3.2.1 through 6.3.2.4 contain required activities to determine the non-functional size.

6.3.2.1 Identify the purpose

Sizing the non-functional size may be conducted to:

- Provide an accurate estimation of effort and time to deliver a software project
- Assess the value of the installed base of applications to determine the support costs
- Assess the developed size and determine the cost of the project based on size

Examples of purposes are to provide the non-functional size.

6.3.2.2 Identify the type

The functional size and the non-functional size can be measured for either projects or applications. The type of assessment is determined, based on the purpose, as one of the following:

- Development project assessment
- Enhancement project assessment
- Application assessment

Figure 13 illustrates the types of assessments and their relationships. (Project A is completed first, followed by Project B.)

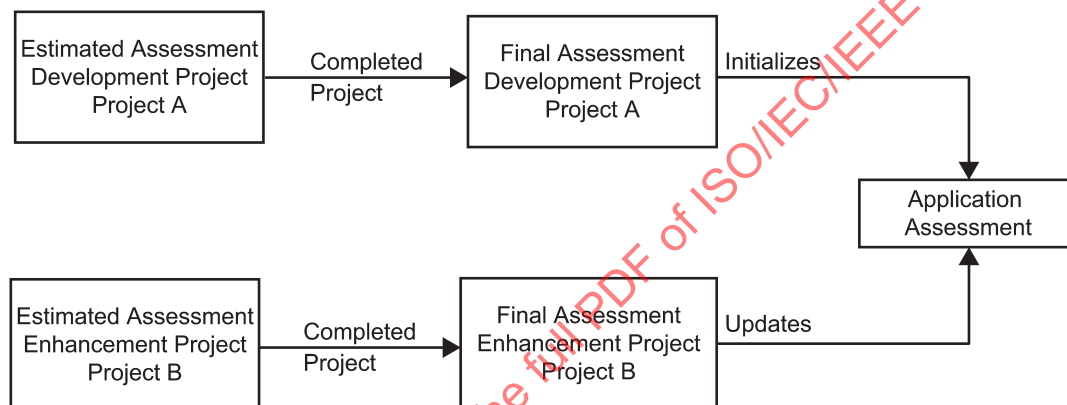


Figure 13—Types of assessments

6.3.2.3 Identify the scope

The scope defines the set of NFR to be included in the assessment.

- a) The scope:
 - 1) Is determined by the purpose of performing the non-functional assessment.
 - 2) Defines a set of partition(s).
 - 3) Identifies which non-functional categories and sub-categories should be included in the non-functional size measurement to measure the size of NFR for the development and delivery of the software product.
 - 4) Could include more than one application.
- b) Types of sizing:
 - 1) Sizing a development project includes all NFR for the development and delivery of the software product.
 - 2) Sizing of an installed base of applications includes all NFR for the support of the installed applications.

- 3) Sizing an enhancement project includes all NFR for the development and delivery of the enhancement project.
- 4) Sizing a maintenance project includes all NFR for a selected scope.
- c) The following hints can help in identifying the assessment scope:
 - 1) Review the purpose of the non-functional assessment to help determine the assessment scope.
 - 2) When identifying the scope for measuring the non-functional size of the installed base of applications, include all of the non-functional categories supported by the maintenance team, eventually distinguished by partition within each application's boundary.

6.3.2.4 Determine the boundary

Determine the boundary of each application within the sizing scope, based on the user view.

6.3.2.4.1 User view

In order to establish the boundary, the user view should be defined. The following hints can help to identify the user view:

- a) A user is any person or thing (application, device, etc.) that communicates or interacts with the software at any time.
- b) A user view consists of the functional and NFR as perceived by the user.
- c) A user view represents a formal description of the user's needs in the user's language.
- d) A user view can be verbal statements made by the user as to what their view is.
- e) A user view should be approved by the user.
- f) A user view can vary in physical form (e.g. user stories, catalog of transactions, proposals, requirements document, external specifications, detailed specifications, user handbook, quality or non-functional specifications).
- g) A partition may act as an "internal user" for another partition within the same application boundary, in terms of data exchange or data sharing; consequently, different non-functional sizing might be created for each partition.

6.3.2.4.2 Boundary

The boundary is a conceptual interface between the software under study and its users.

The boundary (also referred to as application boundary):

- Defines what is external to the application
- Indicates the border between the software being measured and the user
- Acts as a "membrane" through which data processed by transactions pass into and out of the application
- Is dependent on the user's external business view of the application; it is independent of non-functional and/or implementation considerations

The positioning of the boundary between the software under investigation and other software applications may be subjective. It is often difficult to delineate where one application stops and another begins. Try to place the boundary from a business perspective rather than based on technical or physical considerations.

For example, Figure 14 shows boundaries between the Human Resources application and the external applications, Currency and Fixed Assets. The example also shows the boundary between the human user (User 1) and the Human Resources application. The Human Resource application may in turn internally satisfy the functional, technical and quality requirements specified by the user.

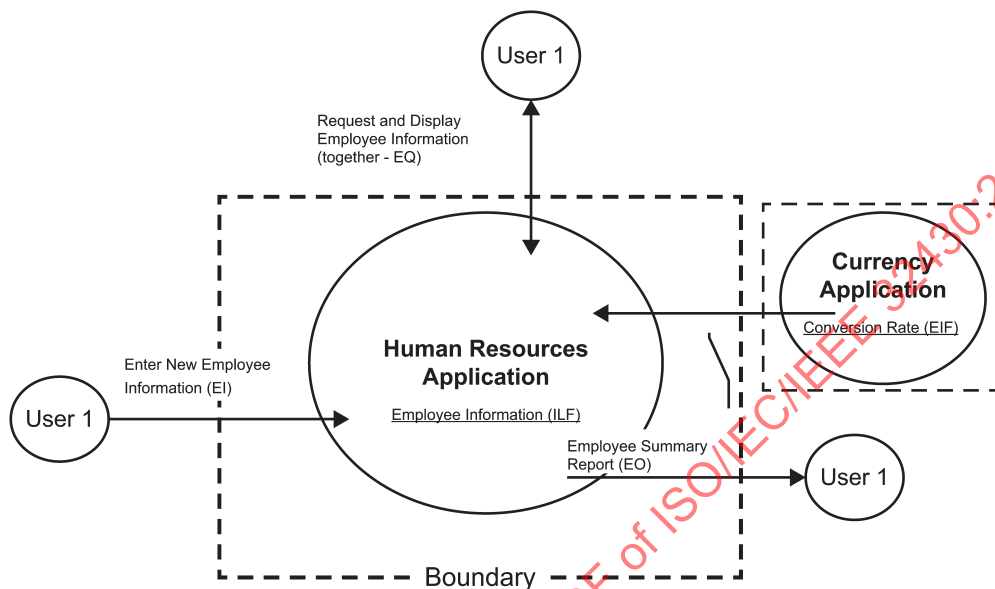


Figure 14—Boundary example

The following rules shall apply for boundaries:

- The logical application boundaries need to be consistent between the FPA and SNAP processes.
- The boundary is determined based on the user view; the focus is on what the user can understand and describe.
- The initial boundary already established for the application, or applications being modified, is not influenced by the assessment scope.
- There may be more than one application included in the sizing scope. If so, multiple application boundaries would be identified.
- When the boundary is not well-defined (such as early in the analysis), it should be located as accurately as possible.

6.3.2.4.3 Multiple-instance approach versus single-instance approach

Different organizations may take different approaches for sizing similar functionality being delivered on different media. They use the single instance or the multiple instance approaches to specify the same. Single instance approach is said to be when the same functionality is delivered via different mediums (input or output), but is counted only once. Organizations using the single instance approach for the FP size can size the other methods of delivery using SNAP. The single instance approach does not recognize the medium for delivery for a transaction function as a differentiating characteristic in the identification of unique transaction functions. If two functions deliver the same functionality using different media, they are considered to be the same function for functional sizing purposes. The multiple instance approach specifies that instance functional size is taken in the context of the approach objective of the count, allowing a business function to be recognized

in the context of the medium in which it is required to operate. The multiple instance approach recognizes the medium for delivery for a transaction function as a differentiating characteristic in the identification of unique transaction functions.

6.3.2.5 Identify the partitions, if applicable

When identified, partitions may add non-functional size. Sub-category 1.4 (Internal Data Movements) is used to provide the additional non-functional size for the application being assessed.

The following hints can help to identify the boundary and the partition of the application(s):

- a) Use the system external specifications or a system flow chart and draw a boundary around it to highlight which parts are internal and which are external to the application.
- b) Look at how groups of data and software partitions are being maintained.
- c) Identify functional areas by assigning ownership of certain types of analysis objects (such as entities or EPs) to a functional area; non-functional categories are determined by the identification of the functional boundaries (application boundaries as determined by FPA) and eventually partitions within them.
- d) Look at the associated measurement data, such as effort, cost, and defects; the boundaries for measurement should be the same, or eventually, those measurement data might be distinguished by partitions within a single boundary.
- e) Interview subject matter experts for assistance in identifying the boundary.
- f) Interview software analysts for assistance in identifying the partitions, if any.

The following hints can help to identify the boundary and the partition of the application(s):

- g) Use the system external specifications or a system flow chart and draw a boundary around it to highlight which parts are internal and which are external to the application.
- h) Look at how groups of data and software partitions are being maintained.
- i) Identify functional areas by assigning ownership of certain types of analysis objects (such as entities or EPs) to a functional area; non-functional categories are determined by the identification of the functional boundaries (Application boundaries as determined by FPA) and eventually partitions within them.
- j) Look at the associated measurement data, such as effort, cost, and defects; the boundaries for measurement should be the same, or eventually, those measurement data might be distinguished by partitions within a single boundary.
- k) Interview subject matter experts for assistance in identifying the boundary.
- l) Interview software analysts for assistance in identifying the partitions, if any.

6.3.3 Step 3: Identify the NFR

The following guidelines may be used to identify all NFR:

- a) NFR may be explicitly documented, but may also be implicit. Users should make sure that they identify all requirements, implicit or explicit.
- b) NFR may be mandated by law or by customer's policy, and may not be documented as part of the project's documentation.

- c) It is important to separate NFR and functional requirements. In actual project documentation, a requirement may contain both functional and non-functional aspects.
- d) Such a requirement should be broken down into its functional components and non-functional components, and the segregation should be agreed by both the user/customer and development teams. Rules for segregating the functional aspect of the requirements from its NFR are provided in 7.1.

6.3.4 Step 4: Associate NFR with sub-categories and identify the SCU

Identify the subcategories as follows:

- a) Identify the applicable sub-categories for the NFR. Use the description of the sub-categories and the examples in this standard to associate NFR with sub-categories.
- b) Identify the Counting Units (SCUs).

The SCUs are unique to each sub-category; they are determined by the nature of the sub-category. The SCU is part of the sub-category definition.

A non-functional requirement may consume several SCUs. For example, a requirement for improved time behavior (performance) may involve several EPs, each EP is an SCU.

Sizing is done separately per each SCU.

6.3.5 Step 5: Determine the SNAP size for each sub-category

For each SCU:

- a) Identify the complexity parameters of the SCU.
- b) Use Clause 5 of this standard to determine the non-functional size of the SCU.

The non-functional size for the sub-category is the sum of the SPs of all SCUs.

6.3.6 Step 6: Calculate the non-functional size

The non-functional size is the sum of the sizes of all SCUs identified in all sub-categories

6.3.7 Step 7: Document and report

The sizing results shall be documented as follows:

- a) The purpose and type of count
- b) The counting scope and the boundary of the application
- c) The date of the count
- d) A list of all SCUs, including their type and complexity and number of SPs assigned
- e) The result of the count
- f) Any assumptions made and issues resolved

The documentation can also include the following:

- g) Identification of the source documentation on which the count was based
- h) Identification of the participants, their roles and qualifications

NOTE 1—Negotiate the level of documentation with the client, and inform the client about the related costs and benefits.

NOTE 2—A fully documented count should facilitate traceability, usability and maintainability; however, a client may be interested only in the results.

NOTE 3—The document should have versioning control.

NOTE 4—The document should state the conventions to be adopted when reporting size such that it is qualified with:

- The units of the size
- The name of the sizing method

Example: Non-functional size = 300 SPs (APM V2.4).

6.4 Calculating the Non-functional size

6.4.1 Formula approach

During an assessment of a non-functional requirement, one or many of the sub-categories can be assessed depending on the specification of the requirement. For each non-functional requirement, it is possible to determine the non-functional size in four steps:

- **Step 1.** For each requirement, identify the categories and sub-categories that are associated with the requirement.
- **Step 2:** For each of the sub-categories, identify the SCUs.
- **Step 3:** Determine the non-functional size (SPs) for each SCU within the sub-category, by using the equation or the table for the sub-categories.
- **Step 4:** Determine the SPs for a specific project or application by using the formula for the project type in question.

6.4.2 Determine the non-functional size of each sub-category

The non-functional size of each sub-category shall be determined using the defined measure for the SCU for each sub-category.

There is one definition of the SCU for each of the sub-categories. These assessment criteria are defined in the sub-category definition.

The size of each sub-category is determined by using the defined equation or table for each sub-category.

6.4.3 Determine the non-functional size of a development project

The size of the NFR is equal to the sum of SP sizes of each category. A development project non-functional size shall be calculated using the development formula

The formula for development project:

$$\text{DSP} = \text{ADD}$$

where

DSP	is the development project SNAP size
ADD	is the size of the NFR delivered to the user by the development project
ADD	is the sum of SP for all sub-categories

The application non-functional size is equivalent to the non-functional size of the development project.

NOTE—For non-functional size, converted functionality is not identified

6.4.4 Determine the non-functional size of an enhancement project

Enhancement projects can involve additions, changes to, and deletion of existing non-functional features.

Enhancement project is a project to develop and deliver maintenance. It may be adaptive, preventive or perfective type

The enhancement project non-functional size is a measure of the non-functional characteristics added or deleted at the completion of an enhancement project as well as changes made to existing non-functional characteristics as measured by the enhancement project SNAP size.

Rules:

Enhancement NFR shall be measured in accordance with the following:

- a) Do not modify the boundary or partition already established for the application(s) being modified.
- b) Assess requirements that are added, changed or deleted.
- c) The application non-functional size may be updated to reflect:
 - 1) Added NFR, which increase the application non-functional size.
 - 2) Changed NFR, which may increase, decrease or have no effect on the application non-functional size.
 - 3) Deleted NFR, which decrease the application non-functional size.

NOTE—This rule is analyzed and counted per each sub-category. An enhancement project non-functional size should be calculated using the formula in 6.4.4.1.

6.4.4.1 The formula for enhancement project

$$\text{ESP} = \text{ADD} + \text{CHG} + \text{DEL}$$

where

ESP	is the enhancement project SNAP size
ADD	is the size of the non-functional characteristics being added by the enhancement project
CHG	is the size of the changes made to existing sub-categories by the enhancement project
DEL	is the size of the non-functional characteristics deleted by the enhancement project

For a sub-category SC

$$ESPSC = ADDSC + CHGSC + DELSC$$

For the enhancement project

$$ASP = \sum \text{of ESP for Sub-category 1.1} + \sum \text{of ESP for Sub-category 1.2} + \dots + \sum \text{of ESP for Sub-category 4.2}$$

The formula for the application size after an enhancement project

An application non-functional size after an enhancement project shall be calculated using the formula:

$$ASPA = ASPB + (ADD + CHGA) - (CHGB + DEL)$$

where:

ASPA	is the application SP after the enhancement project
ASPB	is the application SP before the enhancement project
ADD	is the size of the NFR being added by the enhancement project
CHGA	is the size of the NFR being changed by the enhancement project as they are/will be after implementation
CHGB	is the size of the NFR being changed by the enhancement project as they are/were before the project commenced
DEL	is the size of the NFR deleted by the enhancement project

NOTE—The size of changes made to sub-categories in an enhancement project (i.e., CHG) does not provide an assessment of the overall size of the sub-categories before (CHGB) or after (CHGA) the enhancement project—CHG measures the size of the change in the non-functional characteristics being changed.

A demonstration of a situation in which the size of the change in the project (CHG) is 12 SP, but the overall size of the sub-category is 0 (CHGA = CHGB) is shown in Item b) in 6.4.5.

Therefore, in order to maintain the application's non-functional size after each enhancement project, one should assess, in addition to the size of the changes made, the size of the sub-category before and after the enhancement.

6.4.5 Calculation examples

- a) An application has an EP in which there are 10 DETs. Three DETs are already encrypted (encryption complexity is average).

The enhancement project requires to change the encryption type (new encryption is local).

- 1) Counting the enhancement project:

- i) Type of requirements: CHG
- ii) Transformation complexity: High

$$ESP = ADD + CHG + DEL$$

$$= 0 + 5 \times \text{the number of DETs} + 0 = 15$$

- 2) Counting the application:

$$ASPB = 3 \times \text{the number of of DETs} = 9 \text{ (Assuming this is the only NFT in the application)}$$

$$\text{CHGB} = 3 \times \text{the number of DETs} = 9$$

$$\text{CHGA} = 15$$

$$\text{ASPA} = \text{ASPB} + (\text{ADD} + \text{CHGA}) - (\text{CHGB} + \text{DEL})$$

$$= 9 + (0 + 15) - (9 + 0) = 15$$

- b) A “Search” application has an entry screen with one entry: a string to search. To keep the look-and-feel of the application fresh, each month the background color is changed, the size and location of the search field are changed and the shape and location of the search button are changed.

To build this screen, the sum of the number of unique properties is 20.

- 1) Counting the enhancement project:

Type of requirements: CHG

UI Type complexity: High

Number of unique UI elements: 3 (Screen, field, control);

$$\text{ESP} = \text{ADD} + \text{CHG} + \text{DEL}$$

$$= 0 + 4 \times 3 + 0 = 12$$

- 2) Counting the application:

$$\text{ASPB} = 3 \times 4 = 12 \text{ (Assuming this is the only NFT in the application)}$$

$$\text{CHGB} = 3 \times 4 = 12$$

$$\text{CHGA} = 3 \times 4 = 12$$

$$\text{ASPA} = \text{ASPB} + (\text{ADD} + \text{CHGA}) - (\text{CHGB} + \text{DEL})$$

$$= 12 + (0 + 12) - (12 + 0) = 12$$

(No change in application size)

7. Complementarity of the functional and the non-functional sizes

Documented requirements, in actual projects, may combine functional and non-functional aspects. Such a requirement should be broken down into its functional components and non-functional components, and the segregation should be agreed by both the user/customer and development teams. Use FP for the functional parts of the requirements and SPs for the non-functional parts of the requirements.

Table 25 is a guideline. To define NFR, ISO standard or a similar standard may be used.

Table 25—IFPUG FPA and SNAP interrelations

Case #	Circumstance	Description	Guideline
1	Requirements are functional only	The users do not have any explicit or implicit NFR	Count function points only
2	Requirements are clearly marked as NFR	Parties agree on clear segregation between functional requirements and NFR. Requirements classified as NFR cannot be sized with function points	Count SPs only
3	Requirements involve both functional and non-functional aspects	Functional requirements have additional NFR which can be clearly identified:	See 7.1
4	Requirements are functional only, transactions cross partitions	Functional requirements may involve single or multiple flows. In case of multiple flows, and using ISO/IEC 20926:2009 (IFPUG FSM) guidelines, each flow might not qualify as a separate EP.	Count function points to size the new/enhanced functionality for the main EP as per ISO/IEC 20926:2009, add SNAP size for the transactions/flows within the application's boundary, that cross the partitions
5	Requirements are functional, but they are provided without any software change	Functionality (or any business value) that is added or modified by changing reference data or other means that cannot be sized by FPs, according to ISO/IEC 20926:2009 guidelines or FP counting practices of the organization.	Count SPs using Sub-category 1.5—Delivering Functionality by Data Configuration

The following subclauses contain guidelines that should be used to determine how FP and SPs should be counted.

7.1 Requirements involving functional and non-functional requirements

7.1.1 Sub-category 1.1 data entry validation

7.1.1.1 What to check

The EP.

7.1.1.2 Rules

- a) Count SPs when:
 - 1) Adding a new DET with validation (count SPs in addition to FPs).
 - 2) Changing a DET (e.g., Masking, length, format) and changing the entry validation.
 - 3) Changing the validation logic of an existing DET.

NOTE 1—For an EP with a DET added to current functionality, count FPs per ISO/IEC 20926:2009 (IFPUG FSM) for the functional aspect of adding the DET and SPs for the complexity change of the validation.

NOTE 2—When adding or changing a validation on an existing DET, count FPs per ISO/IEC 20926:2009 for the functional aspect of changing the validation logic and SPs for the impacts to change in validation complexity.

NOTE 3—Data entry validation is counted in this subcategory only if it involves adding, changing or removing validation logic related to what data is being entered.

For example, adding a rule to validate that a numeric entry is not negative, in addition to validating that the entry is numeric and is decimal—is SP-counted. Adding a valid value to an existing list without changing the

validation logic does not generate SPs in this sub-category (adding a valid value should be counted under Sub-category 3.2 Database Technology, as a database change). Adding a new list of valid values for an existing DET to validate values against is counted in SPs both in Sub-category 1.1 and 3.2.

7.1.1.3 Examples

- a) A change in a date field in an enhancement project: former validation for date entry checked the format of DD/MMM/YY and now format should be DD/MMM/YYYY. For the EP that enters the date, this change is counted in SPs using Sub-category 1.1 in addition to FPs counting. (Count FPs if there is a change in the processing logic, as per ISO/IEC 20926:2009.)
- b) In an enhancement project of a travel application for international flight booking function, passport type field is being added. A new code table is added to store passport type (regular, diplomatic, etc.) Based on passport type, validation rules exist to check the format of passport number being entered is correct or not. Two EPs are impacted: “Enter traveler’s details” and “modify traveler’s details”. For both EPs, count FPs for adding the new DET, SPs (Sub-category 1.1) for the data entry validation required for passport type field, and SPs (Sub-category 3.2) for adding the code table.
- c) In a development project of a telecommunication self-service application, payment screen (one EP, “enter payment details”): validate that the mobile number is numerical, and is structured as “0XX-XXXXXXX” (the first digit must be zero, following 9 digits only) is SPs-counted using this sub-category in addition to FPs counting.
- d) In both development and enhancement projects of a health insurance application, entering a new claim process has many fields. Validating that all fields are populated with the right format and that all mandatory fields are not empty is SP counted using this sub-category in addition to FPs counting.
- e) A change is requested to the values in a drop-down list with five values, change one value and add two new values: if data entry validation logic does not change, use Sub-category 3.2 and not this sub-category to count SPs.
- f) An existing EI was enhanced by adding a validation to an existing field to confirm that the value is between 8 and 12 digits long. This new validation was the only change made to the EI. Size this change using FPs since there is a change in the processing logic as per ISO/IEC 20926:2009 (IFPUG FSM), and size it using SPs since it involves a non-functional aspect as well.

7.1.2 Sub-category 1.2 logical and mathematical operations

7.1.2.1 What to check

The EP

7.1.2.2 Rules

- a) Count the functional requirement using FPs for any EO/EI/EQ per ISO/IEC 20926:2009 (IFPUG FSM); in addition, count SPs when processing logic includes extensive mathematical and/or extensive logical operations as defined in 5.1.2. The complexity of the algorithmic calculations and/or the logical processing required is the non-functional aspect of the requirement.
- b) The above is true either for a development of a new request or for an enhancement.

7.1.2.3 Example

A project management software application currently allows the user to compute project completion time using the algorithm “Critical Path Method.” The user now wants an enhancement to allow the new, optional use of