

Bridging The Communication Gap Specification By Example And Agile Acceptance Testing Gojko Adzic

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Bridging the Communication Gap Specification by Example and Agile Acceptance Testing Gojko Adzic's Influence

The software development world is a symphony of conflicting desires. We crave speed, agility, and flawless execution, yet we are often plagued by misunderstandings, misinterpretations, and ultimately a gaping chasm: the communication gap. This gap, if left unbridged, leads to costly rework, frustrated developers, and unhappy clients.

Enter Gojko Adzic, a pioneering figure in agile testing and the champion of Specification by Example (SbE) and its crucial role in bridging this chasm.

Imagine a team building a sophisticated e-commerce platform. The client envisions a seamless, intuitive checkout process. The developers, however, might interpret "seamless" differently: one envisions blazing-fast load times, another a minimal number of clicks, and yet another a foolproof error-handling system. Without a shared understanding, the resulting platform might be technically brilliant but utterly fail to meet the client's expectations.

This, my friends, is the communication gap in action.

Gojko Adzic's work, particularly his emphasis on Specification by Example and agile acceptance testing, offers a powerful antidote. SbE isn't about writing lengthy technical documents that gather dust on a shelf. It's about collaboratively crafting concrete, real-world examples that illustrate the desired system behavior.

These examples, often expressed as scenarios or user stories with clear inputs, outputs, and expected results, form a living, breathing specification. Think of it as building a bridge, one brick at a time. Each example is a carefully placed brick, solidifying the foundation of understanding between the client, developers, and testers.

Instead of abstract pronouncements like "the system should be user-friendly," SbE provides tangible examples:

- Example 1: Given a user is logged in and has added an item to their cart. When they click Checkout. Then the system should display the shipping address form.
- Example 2: Given a user enters an invalid credit card number. When they click Pay. Then the system should display an error message indicating the invalid number and suggest 2 possible corrections.

These examples are not just for developers; they're the shared language of the entire team. They clarify ambiguities, prevent misunderstandings, and facilitate a common understanding of what "done truly" means.

This shared understanding forms the bedrock of successful agile acceptance testing.

Agile acceptance testing, closely intertwined with SbE, shifts the focus from traditional, often cumbersome testing processes to collaborative, iterative validation. Testers aren't just finding bugs; they're actively participating in defining and verifying the system's functionality based on the collaboratively created examples.

This is achieved through techniques such as TestDriven Development (TDD). Writing automated tests before writing code ensures the code fulfills the specified examples.

BehaviorDriven Development (BDD) Using a common language, often Gherkin, to describe the system's behavior, making it understandable to both technical and nontechnical stakeholders.

Acceptance TestDriven Development (ATDD) Focusing on acceptance criteria defined through examples, driving the development process from the outside in.

Let's return to our e-commerce platform example.

Instead of a lengthy ambiguous requirements document the team including the client would collaboratively define examples like the ones above Developers would then write automated tests based on these examples ensuring the system meets expectations before even a single line of code is written Testers would continuously validate the system against these examples providing immediate feedback and ensuring a smoother development process The power of SbE and agile acceptance testing lies not just in its technical aspects but in its human element It fosters communication collaboration and shared ownership It transforms the often adversarial relationship between client and development team into a collaborative partnership It brings transparency to the process empowering everyone to understand the projects progress and identify potential issues early

Actionable Takeaways

- 1 Embrace Collaboration Involve all stakeholders clients developers testers business analysts in defining examples
- 2 Start Small Begin with a few key scenarios and gradually expand your example set
- 3 Use a Common Language Adopt a consistent format and vocabulary for your examples like Gherkin
- 3 4 Automate Your Tests Automate tests based on your examples for faster feedback and continuous validation
- 5 Iterate and Refine Regularly review and update your examples based on feedback and changing requirements

FAQs

- 1 What tools support Specification by Example Many tools support SbE and BDD including Cucumber SpecFlow JBehave and FitNesse The choice depends on your technology stack and project needs
- 2 Isnt SbE just another form of documentation While SbE involves documentation its fundamentally different It focuses on executable examples that are directly linked to the systems behavior unlike traditional often static documentation
- 3 How do I handle changing requirements with SbE SbE embraces change As requirements evolve your examples are updated ensuring the system consistently aligns with the latest expectations
- 4 Is SbE suitable for all projects While highly beneficial for most projects the suitability of SbE depends on project size complexity and team dynamics Smaller projects might benefit from a simpler approach while larger projects can greatly benefit from the structure and clarity SbE provides
- 5 How can I get started with SbE and agile acceptance testing Start with a small well defined part of your system Identify a few critical user stories and collaborate with your team to write clear concise examples Gradually expand your example set as you gain experience

By implementing Specification by Example and embracing the principles of agile acceptance testing inspired by the work of Gojko Adzic you can effectively bridge the communication gap fostering collaboration reducing risks and ultimately delivering software that truly meets and even exceeds expectations The result A harmonious symphony of successful software development where everyone plays their part in creating a masterpiece

Bridging the Communication Gap Specification by Example Research in Corporate and Shari'ah Governance in the Muslim World Measuring Of Services Quality Initiatives Undertaken By Eye Hospitals In Kolkata Complex Systems Design & Management Innovations in Logistics and Supply Chain Management Technologies for Dynamic Economies Executable Specifications with Scrum Program Specification The Operations Advantage Federal Aviation Regulations A Concise Introduction to Software Engineering More Agile Testing Large-Scale Scrum Test-Driven Infrastructure with Chef ATDD by Example Object Design Style Guide The Austin Protocol Compiler The Handbook of Logistics and Distribution Management Service Science and Logistics Informatics: Innovative Perspectives Knowledge Discovery, Knowledge Engineering and Knowledge Management Gojko Adzic Gojko Adzic Toseef Azid Bhaskar Mukherjee Marc Aiguier Luo, Zongwei Mario Cardinal J. Staunstrup Nigel Slack United States. Federal Aviation Administration Pankaj

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bridging the communication gap is a book about improving communication between customers business analysts developers and testers on software projects especially by using specification by example and agile acceptance testing these two key emerging software development practices can significantly improve the chances of success of a software project they ensure that all project participants speak the same language and build a shared and consistent understanding of the domain this leads to better specifications flushes out incorrect assumptions and ensures that functional gaps are discovered before the development starts with these practices in place you can build software that is genuinely fit for purpose

summary specification by example is an emerging practice for creating software based on realistic examples bridging the communication gap between business stakeholders and the dev teams building the software in this book author gojko adzic distills interviews with successful teams worldwide sharing how they specify develop and deliver software without defects in short iterative delivery cycles about the technology specification by example is a collaborative method for specifying requirements and tests seven patterns fully explored in this book are key to making the method effective the method has four main benefits it produces living reliable documentation it defines expectations clearly and makes validation efficient it reduces rework and above all it assures delivery teams and business stakeholders that the software that s built is right for its purpose about the book this book distills from the experience of leading teams worldwide effective ways to specify test and deliver software in short iterative delivery cycles case studies in this book range from small web startups to large financial institutions working in many processes including xp scrum and kanban this book is written for developers testers analysts and business people working together to build great software purchase of the print book comes with an offer of a free pdf epub and kindle ebook from manning also available is all code from the book what s inside common process patterns how to avoid bad practices fitting sbe in your process 50 case studies table of contents part 1 getting started part 2 key process patterns part 3 case studies key benefits key process patterns living documentation initiating the changes deriving scope from goals specifying collaboratively illustrating using examples refining the specification automating validation without changing specifications

validating frequently evolving a documentation system uswitch
rainstor iowa student loan sabre airline solutions eplan services
songkick concluding thoughts

research in corporate and shari ah governance in the muslim world
theory and practice aims to address a critical disciplinary gap
between islamic theory and the practice of the corporate sector in
the muslim world adopting a critical approach the book sheds light on
the impact of corporate governance on the economies of the muslim
world

this book contains all refereed papers that were accepted to the
third edition of the complex systems design management csd m 2012
international conference that took place in paris france from
december 12 14 2012 website csdm2012 csdm fr these proceedings cover
the most recent trends in the emerging field of complex systems
sciences practices from an industrial and academic perspective
including the main industrial domains transport defense security
electronics energy environment e services scientific technical topics
systems fundamentals systems architecture engineering systems metrics
quality systemic tools and system types transportation systems
embedded systems software information systems systems of systems
artificial ecosystems the csd m 2012 conference is organized under
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this book disseminates supply chain management and applied logistic
theories technology development innovation and transformation in
various economy sectors upon current advancing technological
opportunities and market imperatives provided by publisher

most books about specifications still assume that requirements can be
known up front and won t change much during your project in today s
real world however you must specify and build software in the face of
high and continuing uncertainty scrum and other agile methods have
evolved to reflect this reality now there s a complete guide to
specifying software in agile environments when prerequisites are
unclear requirements are difficult to grasp and anything about your
project could change long time agile coach and enterprise architect
mario cardinal shows how to create executable specifications and use
them to test software behavior against requirements cardinal shows
how to trawl requirements incrementally step by step using a vision
centric and emergent iterative practice that is designed for agility
writing for analysts architects developers and managers cardinal
makes a strong case for the iterative discovery of requirements then
he moves from theory to practice fully explaining the technical
mechanisms and empirical techniques you need to gain full value from
executable specifications you ll learn to connect specifications with
software under construction link requirements to architecture and
automate requirements verification within the scrum framework above
all cardinal will help you solve the paramount challenge of software
development not only to solve the problem right but also to solve the
right problem you will learn how to establish more effective agile
roles for analysts and architects integrate and simplify the best
techniques from fit atdd and bdd identify core certainties on which
your project team should rely to ensure requirements discovery manage
uncertainty by discovering stakeholder desires through short feedback
loops specify as you go while writing small chunks of requirements
use storyboarding and paper prototyping to improve conversations with
stakeholders express stakeholder desires that are requirements with
user stories refine your user stories and plan more effective scrum
sprints confirm user stories by scripting behaviors with scenarios

transform scenarios into automated tests that easily confirm your software's expected behavior as designs emerge and specifications evolve ensure higher quality software by specifying nonfunctional requirements

the study and practice of operations has shifted to reflect the new challenges and uncertainties of how to thrive in today's ever-changing world the operations advantage identifies the most significant challenges to the practice of operations management and gives guidance on how businesses can respond leaders need to link the strategic objectives of the business clearly and logically to its operations performance objectives the book presents a series of ten activities that will help them to do this and therefore make operations work better such as designing and configuring internal processes and resourcing the operations appropriately based on the global teaching training and consultancy conducted by the author the operations advantage looks at the application of operations management across a range of sectors including finance healthcare professional services oil and gas industries although these diverse sectors require operations practitioners to apply knowledge in different ways they essentially deal with the same set of processes the book is an indispensable and unique guide for anyone with an operational role in any organization as well as operations management students and academics

software engineering has changed a software project today is likely to use large language models llms for some tasks and will employ some open source software it is therefore important to integrate open source and use of llms in teaching software engineering a key goal of this textbook this reader friendly textbook reference introduces a carefully curated set of concepts and practices essential for key tasks in software projects it begins with a chapter covering industry standard software open source tools and the basics of prompt engineering for llms the second chapter delves into project management including development process models planning and team working subsequent chapters focus on requirements analysis and specification architecture design software design coding testing and application deployment each chapter presents concepts practical methods examples the application of llms and the role of open source software a companion website provides some comprehensive case studies as well as teaching material including presentation slides this textbook is ideal for an introductory course on software engineering where the objective is to develop knowledge and skills to execute a project specifically in a team employing contemporary software engineering practices and using open source and llms it is also suitable for professionals who want to be introduced to the systematic approach of software engineering and or use of open source and llms the author is a distinguished professor at iiit delhi and a well known academic in software engineering he has served as vice president in infosys technologies limited and as a visiting researcher at microsoft corporation reviews of the first edition this book's title provides an excellent description of its content this compact volume is organized into eight well focused chapters containing numerous examples and well designed self test exercises includes an excellent collection of references and a very useful index summing up highly recommended upper division undergraduate through professional readers two year technical program students j beidler choice vol 46 6 jalote's intention in this book is to present just enough material to teach beginning software engineers what they need to know to do a development project that carries a small product from conception through delivery the result is a short book making

this sort of book very attractive as a text for introductory software engineering topics are well chosen and their discussion is good
christopher fox acm computing reviews

janet gregory and lisa crispin pioneered the agile testing discipline with their previous work agile testing now in more agile testing they reflect on all they ve learned since they address crucial emerging issues share evolved agile practices and cover key issues agile testers have asked to learn more about packed with new examples from real teams this insightful guide offers detailed information about adapting agile testing for your environment learning from experience and continually improving your test processes scaling agile testing across teams and overcoming the pitfalls of automated testing you ll find brand new coverage of agile testing for the enterprise distributed teams mobile embedded systems regulated environments data warehouse bi systems and devops practices you ll come away understanding how to clarify testing activities within the team ways to collaborate with business experts to identify valuable features and deliver the right capabilities how to design automated tests for superior reliability and easier maintenance how agile team members can improve and expand their testing skills how to plan just enough balancing small increments with larger feature sets and the entire system how to use testing to identify and mitigate risks associated with your current agile processes and to prevent defects how to address challenges within your product or organizational context how to perform exploratory testing using personas and tours exploratory testing approaches that engage the whole team using test charters with session and thread based techniques how to bring new agile testers up to speed quickly without overwhelming them the ebook edition of more agile testing also is available as part of a two ebook collection the agile testing collection 9780134190624

the go to resource for large scale organizations to be agile rather than asking how can we do agile at scale in our big complex organization a different and deeper question is how can we have the same simple structure that scrum offers for the organization and be agile at scale rather than do agile this profound insight is at the heart of less large scale scrum in large scale scrum more with less craig larman and bas vodde have distilled over a decade of experience in large scale less adoptions towards a simpler organization that delivers more flexibility with less complexity more value with less waste and more purpose with less prescription targeted to anyone involved in large scale development large scale scrum more with less offers straight to the point guides for how to be agile at scale with less it will clearly guide you to adopt less structure a large development organization for customer value clarify the role of management and scrum master define what your product is and why be a great product owner work with multiple whole product focused feature teams in one sprint that produces a shippable product coordinate and integrate between teams work with multi site teams

since test driven infrastructure with chef first appeared in mid 2011 infrastructure testing has begun to flourish in the web ops world in this revised and expanded edition author stephen nelson smith brings you up to date on this rapidly evolving discipline including the philosophy driving it and a growing array of tools you ll get a hands on introduction to the chef framework and a recommended toolchain and workflow for developing your own test driven production infrastructure several exercises and examples throughout the book help you gain experience with chef and the entire infrastructure testing ecosystem learn how this test first approach provides

increased security code quality and peace of mind explore the underpinning philosophy that infrastructure can and should be treated as code become familiar with the mascot approach to test driven infrastructure understand the basics of test driven and behavior driven development for managing change dive into chef fundamentals by building an infrastructure with real examples discover how chef works with tools such as virtualbox and vagrant get a deeper understanding of chef by learning ruby language basics learn the tools and workflow necessary to conduct unit integration and acceptance tests

with acceptance test driven development atdd business customers testers and developers can collaborate to produce testable requirements that help them build higher quality software more rapidly however atdd is still widely misunderstood by many practitioners atdd by example is the first practical entry level hands on guide to implementing and successfully applying it atdd pioneer markus gärtner walks readers step by step through deriving the right systems from business users and then implementing fully automated functional tests that accurately reflect business requirements are intelligible to stakeholders and promote more effective development through two end to end case studies gärtner demonstrates how atdd can be applied using diverse frameworks and languages each case study is accompanied by an extensive set of artifacts including test automation classes step definitions and full sample implementations these realistic examples illuminate atdd s fundamental principles show how atdd fits into the broader development process highlight tips from gärtner s extensive experience and identify crucial pitfalls to avoid readers will learn to master the thought processes associated with successful atdd implementation use atdd with cucumber to describe software in ways businesspeople can understand test web pages using atdd tools bring atdd to java with the fitness wiki based acceptance test framework use examples more effectively in behavior driven development bdd specify software collaboratively through innovative workshops implement more user friendly and collaborative test automation test more cleanly listen to test results and refactor tests for greater value if you re a tester analyst developer or project manager this book offers a concrete foundation for achieving real benefits with atdd now and it will help you reap even more value as you gain experience

demystifies object oriented programming and lays out how to use it to design truly secure and performant applications charles soetan plum io key features dozens of techniques for writing object oriented code that s easy to read reuse and maintain write code that other programmers will instantly understand design rules for constructing objects changing and exposing state and more examples written in an instantly familiar pseudocode that s easy to apply to java python c and any object oriented language purchase of the print book includes a free ebook in pdf kindle and epub formats from manning publications about the book well written object oriented code is easy to read modify and debug elevate your coding style by mastering the universal best practices for object design presented in this book these clearly presented rules which apply to any oo language maximize the clarity and durability of your codebase and increase productivity for you and your team in object design style guide veteran developer matthias noback lays out design rules for constructing objects defining methods and much more all examples use instantly familiar pseudocode so you can follow along in the language you prefer you ll go case by case through important scenarios and challenges for object design and then walk through a simple web application that demonstrates how

different types of objects can work together effectively what you will learn universal design rules for a wide range of objects best practices for testing objects a catalog of common object types changing and exposing state test your object design skills with exercises this book is written for for readers familiar with an object oriented language and basic application architecture about the author matthias noback is a professional web developer with nearly two decades of experience he runs his own web development training and consultancy company called noback s office table of contents 1 programming with objects a primer 2 creating services 3 creating other objects 4 manipulating objects 5 using objects 6 retrieving information 7 performing tasks 8 dividing responsibilities 9 changing the behavior of services 10 a field guide to objects 11 epilogue

there are two groups of researchers who are interested in designing network protocols and who cannot yet effectively communicate with one another c cerning these protocols the first is the group of protocol verifiers and the second is the group of protocol implementors the main reason for the lack of effective communication between these two groups is that these groups use languages with quite different semantics to specify network protocols on one hand the protocol verifiers use specification languages whose semantics are abstract coarse grained and with large atom ity clearly protocol specifications that are developed based on such semantics are easier to prove correct on the other hand the protocol implementors use specification languages whose semantics are concrete fine grained and with small atomicity protocol specifications that are developed based on such mantics are easier to implement using system programming languages such as c c and java to help in closing this communication gap between the group of protocol verifiers and the group of protocol implementors we present in this monograph a protocol specification language called the timed abstract protocol or tap for short notation this notation is greatly influenced by the abstract protocol notation in the textbook elements of network protocol design written by the second author mohamed g gouda the tap notation has two types of sem tics an abstract semantics that appeals to the protocol verifiers and a concrete semantics thatappeals to the protocol implementors group

fully grasp the core principles of logistics distribution management and the supply chain in addition to emerging trends and the latest technologies with this definitive guide that offers clear and straightforward explanations the handbook provides practitioners and students with a complete step by step overview of the many different aspects of setting up managing and optimizing supply chains designed to offer a full appreciation of how supply chains are planned and operated it is structured logically and delves into topics in more clarity and detail than disparate collections of research papers integrating both strategic and tactical insights this textbook is underpinned throughout by real world data and worked examples that bring the concepts to life the seventh edition offers updates and solutions designed to meet the challenges faced by those studying and working in the sector new coverage of future supply chain related technologies including artificial intelligence data analytics digital twins and autonomous mobile robots and how these can be used to optimize operations and increase productivity online resources including lecture slides tables images and formulae from the text acronyms and abbreviations and infographics written by an author team with extensive practical experience in some of the most challenging environments across the world this seminal text is an invaluable resource for both practitioners and students providing a useful desk reference for topics across the wide ranging and vitally important

fields of logistics and the supply chain

this book provides both business and it professionals a reference for practices and guidelines to service innovation in logistics and supply chain management provided by publisher

this book constitutes the thoroughly refereed proceedings of the 4th international joint conference on knowledge discovery knowledge engineering and knowledge management ic3k held in barcelona spain in october 2012 the 29 best papers were carefully reviewed and selected from 347 submissions the papers are organized in topical sections on knowledge discovery and information retrieval knowledge engineering and ontology development knowledge management and information sharing

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