Agenda

- Why SNAP?
- What is SNAP (in a nutshell)?
- Does SNAP work?
- How to use SNAP when we already use Function Points?
- How can I learn more?
- What’s next?
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In many cases, more than 50% of the life cycle costs of software projects are related to non-functional requirements (NFRs).

Until recently, sizing NFRs was not covered by any generally agreed-upon, structured sizing methodology.

Better planning and estimations can be done with a standard non-functional sizing methodology.

Sizing functional requirements through Function Point Analysis and non-functional requirements through SNAP gives a more complete picture of the software under analysis.
Why SNAP?

Software – A 3D Perspective

- Migration
- Platform Upgrades
- Mapping tables

- Business processing logic change
- New business table
- New business attributes added on screen

- Code quality improvement
- Aesthetic changes
- Performance tuning
- Masking for Security purpose

Technical, Quality & Functional Requirements Of Software
Why SNAP?

With SNAP

- Measure technical and quality requirements of software.
- Use SNAP Points and Function Points together for more complete software measurement.

Benefit for Software Projects:
- Improve estimation accuracy.
- Improve scope management.
- Improve delivery and schedule planning.
- Communicate more clearly with stakeholders on NFRs.
- Build better benchmarks.
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What do we Measure?

A requirement to **improve performance** can be met by:

- Adding or upgrading the hardware
  - No additional size

- Improve database capabilities (adding indexes, views...)
  - Size the database changes

- Improve the code approaching the database
  - Size the database queries

- All of the above
  - Size the database changes
  - Size the code changes
What is SNAP?

Non-functional Requirements

Operability

Usability

Recoverability

Accessibility

Data formatting

Database operations

Multiple Outputs

Non-functional Characteristics
SNAP Category

A category is a group of components, processes or activities that are used in order to meet the non-functional requirement.

SNAP Sub-category

A Sub-category is a component, a process or an activity describing a non-functional characteristic in a way it can be measured.

SNAP Counting Unit (SCU)

The SCU is the component or activity, in which complexity and SNAP size is assessed within a sub-category. Examples of SCU: an elementary process, the entire application, a set of screens, a batch job.

Partition

A partition is a set of software functions within an application boundary that share homogeneous assessment criteria and values.

- A partition requires development effort that may not be reflected when sizing the functional aspect of the project/product, using Function Point Analysis (FPA) such as front-end and back-end sub-applications, which form one boundary around both sub-applications.
## SNAP Assessment Process

1. Identify the purpose of the assessment.
2. Identify assessment type.
3. Determine the assessment scope, based on the purpose and type of count.
4. Determine the boundary.
5. Determine the partitions, if applicable.
6. Identify the NFR.
7. Identify the non-functional characteristics added, changed or deleted by the NFR. Classify each non-functional characteristic into a sub-category.
8. Identify the SCUs* within this sub-category.
9. Use the defined tables and equations to determine the complexity and then the SNAP point size of the SCU.
10. Sum the SNAP point size of all SCUs.

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**What is SNAP?**

SNAP stands for Software Non-functional Assessment Process. It is a method used to assess the complexity of software systems by evaluating their non-functional requirements. SNAP uses a scoring system to determine the complexity of each Feature Point Unit (FPU) and then aggregates these scores to provide an overall assessment of the system's complexity.
What is SNAP?

SNAP Categories & Sub-categories

**Data Operations**
- Data Entry Validation
- Logical and Mathematical Operations
- Data Formatting
- Internal Data Movements
- Delivering Added Value to Users by Data Configuration

**Interface Design**
- User Interfaces
- Help Methods
- Multiple Input Methods
- Multiple Output Methods

**Technical Environment**
- Multiple Platforms
- Database Technology
- Batch Processes

**Architecture**
- Component Based Software
- Multiple Input / Output Interfaces

Categories & sub-categories do not replace or redefine non-functional requirements; they define how these requirements are met.
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In fall 2012, IFPUG conducted a test to measure the correlation between SNAP size and the effort to produce this size for an internationally collected, statistically large random sample of projects. The beta test had SNAP sizes for 48 projects usable for correlating SNAP sizes with work effort, and an additional 14 projects are usable for the Benford's Law test (without effort data).

Data was collected from Brazil, China, France, India, Italy, Mexico, Poland, Spain, UK, and the USA.
### Statistical Result

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistical Result</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sample Size = 48</td>
<td>48 projects is a very good sample size for statistical significance. Alan Albrecht did initial FP analysis on 22 IBM projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coefficient of Determination</td>
<td>0.89 indicates a very strong correlation between the SNAP point size and effort. R² closer to 1 approaches “perfect” correlation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R² = 0.89</td>
<td>A small value like 1.7*10⁻²³ with the .89 R² indicates that the relation between SNAP point size and effort seen in this beta test is not likely to be mere chance. Significance F &lt; 0.01 means that the correlation is not likely to be mere chance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spearman's Rank Correlation</td>
<td>0.85 is another indication of strong correlation between SNAP point size and effort. Rank correlation closer to 1 approaches “perfect” correlation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P value &lt; 0.0001</td>
<td>This indicates that the .85 found in the rank correlation test has a statistical significance of &gt; 99%. P value &lt; 0.01 means that the correlation is not likely to be mere chance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results demonstrate significant statistical correlation of SNAP size and effort.
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Non-functional size should be used in conjunction with functional size to provide an overall view of the software application.

A requirement may contain both functional and non-functional aspects. Functional size is measured in Function Points; non-functional size is measured in SNAP points.

A Requirement should be broken into its functional and non-functional components. The segregation should be agreed by both the users and developers.

The Assessment Practices Manual (APM) contains guidelines how to count FP and SNAP points and avoid duplicated counting.
How to use SNAP when we already use Function Points?

SNAP and FPA

Legend:
- EI: External inputs
- EO: External outputs
- EQ: External Inquiries
- EIF: External Interface files
- ILF: Internal logical files

ADD: Add
CHG: Change
DEL: Delete
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How Can I Learn More? (1/2)

- Download the APM (SNAP Manual), free of charge, from IFPUG online store. (Click [here](#) to follow)
  - The APM is available in English, Spanish and Portuguese.
- You can download, free of charge, assisting materials: SNAP counting tool and SNAP quick reference guide
- IFPUG and companies that are certified by IFPUG provide training sessions to users
- IFPUG provides a certification test to SNAP practitioners (Certified SNAP Practitioner – CSP).
IFPUG provides a “Train-The-Trainer” kit to companies that would like to train their customers with SNAP.

SNAP interest groups, both in IFPUG site and in LinkedIn are used to discuss practical issues of SNAP users.

IFPUG is collaborating with ISBSG* to collect SNAP data and add to ISBSG repository.

* The ISBSG is a not-for-profit organization that established and now grows, maintains and exploits two repositories of IT history data (software metrics) to help improve the management of IT globally.
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The Non-functional Sizing Standards Committee (NFSSC) is collecting data to establish SNAP benchmarks.

The Non-functional Sizing Standards Committee is also looking for academic institutions to expand the ability to research non-functional aspects.
Contact us

WWW.IFPUG.ORG

NFSSC@ifpug.org

SNAP INTEREST GROUP
Group | 156 members | 10 resources | 65 discussions | 0 events
Post your questions and comments regarding SNAP
Appendices
IFPUG approval to ITPC (IT Performance Committee) for project ‘Technical Sizing Framework.’
Goal: Define a framework covering technical aspects of software not covered by Function Points.

A first draft of Software Non-functional Assessment Process (SNAP) is out for review.

A beta version of the APM is released for pilot, looking for industry feedback.
Post industry-feedback SNAP APM 1.0 BETA released.

SNAP beta test in May 2011 across the globe.
SNAP APM Release 1.0 launched at ISMA 6 workshop.

Beta test.
SNAP APM Release 2.0 launched at ISMA 7 workshop.
SNAP available in Portuguese.

SNAP is in use.
Training, certification tests are conducted by IFPUG around the globe.

APM is available in Spanish.

APM is available in Portuguese and Chinese.
A glossary of non-functional requirements published jointly by IFPUG and COSMIC.