





# **AI and LLMs in Software Engineering**

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# "Al" and the Virtual Pandoras Box of Sweet and Sour

**SERL** Software Engineering Research Lab @ Blekinge Institute of Technology, Sweden

BTH SERLSweden Leading Software Engineering SERLSweden Leading Software Engineering reThink-reThought



www.rethought.se www.promisedu.se

# who is

- → Engineer (first) / Problem Solver / Researcher
  - Professor, PhD (Tekn. Dr.) Software Engineering, M.Sc. Computer Science + B.Sc. Economy
  - 14 years in industry (6 start-ups, CTO, Senior Executive Consultant, Chief Architect, Technical Advisor, Developer, Product Manager/Business Analyst, Investor)
  - 16 years in research (Technology Product Management, Requirements Engineering, Quality Assurance, Agile transformation/continuous development, Lean Product development, Value based product development, Applied AI)
  - Research leader and project manager S.E.R.T.









# Al *for* SIPS engineering

### **AI**4**SE**

We use AI as a tool to engineer SIPS (Software Intensive Products and Services) – e.g. developers use an AI co-pilot to code, a requirements engineer uses it to analyze requirements...

Engineering *for* AI based SIPS

### SE4AI

When we develop SIPS, it has an "AI component" included as a part of it (developed, bought..) that we have to put requirements ON and architect, design, develop and validate...



### ... so what have we seen so far...



# ... perspective





## ...perspective (what can we do (well-ish) today)



... so what can we do today ...



### ...requirements engineering today...

Create a requirement specification in SAFe style that covers the sale instance in a POS system specifically in relation to adding a customer to the customer loyalty program

#### Main Flow:

#### **1.Login to POS System**

- 1. The salesperson enters their credentials (username and password).
- 2. The salesperson clicks the "Login" button.
- 3. The system verifies the credentials and grants access to the main dashboard.

#### 2.Greet Customer and Start Sale...

...

Subflows:

#### **3a. Product Not Found**

•If the product barcode is not found, the system displays an error message...





## ...requirements engineering today...

As a next step, write a compliance specification of these requirements

### 1.Global:

1. ISO/IEC 27001: Information security management standard.

2. Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI-DSS): Ensures... 2.European Union:

**1. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**: Ensures privacy and protection of personal data.

### **3.United States:**

- **1. California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA)**: Data privacy regulation for California residents.
- **2.** Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA): ...

### 4.Japan:

. . .

1. Act on the Protection of Personal Information (APPI)....

#### ... 5.Germany:

...

1. Bundesdatenschutzgesetz (BDSG): ...

6.Accessibility (Applicable Globally but with Regional Mandates):

1. Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.1) and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA

## ...requirements engineering today...

Break down how you could use GQM to metric level to measure the usability of this requirement for the employee using the POS GQM Approach to Measure Usability for the Employee Using the POS System: Goal: Analyze the usability of the POS system for employees (cashiers) during customer loyalty program enrollment to improve ease of use and efficiency. Questions:

**1.Efficiency:** 

- 1. How quickly can cashiers complete the loyalty program enrollment during checkout?
- 2. How many steps ...

### 2.Effectiveness:

- 1. How accurately are cashiers able to enroll customers without errors?
- 2. How often...

•••

#### **Metrics:**

### **1.Efficiency Metrics:**

1. Average time taken to enroll a customer into the loyalty program (in seconds).

en

2. Number of steps required to complete the enrollment process.

### 2.Effectiveness Metrics:

1. Error rate during the ...

•••

## ...testing today...

Write a manual test case for these requirements next

#### Test Case ID: TC-001

**Title:** Customer Enrollment into Loyalty Program via POS System **Objective:** Verify that the POS system allows cashiers to enroll customers into the loyalty program during checkout in compliance with GDPR. **Preconditions:** 

•The POS system is up and running.

•The cashier is logged into the POS system.

### Test Steps:

1.Start a new transaction in the POS system.

2.During the checkout process, verify if the POS prompts the cashier to ask the customer if they want to join the loyalty program.

3....

•••

...

#### **Expected Results:**

•The POS system prompts the cashier to offer loyalty program enrollment if the customer is not already enrolled.

#### **Postconditions:**

•The customer is enrolled in the loyalty program, and their information is stored securely

## ...testing today...

#### (unittest)

# Write an automated test case

	2 3	from pos_system import POSSystem, LoyaltyProgramDatabase, CRMSystem, Customer, Item
	4 v	class TestPOSSystem(unittest.TestCase):
	5	
	6 🗸	<pre>def setUp(self):</pre>
	7	# Setting up instances for testing
	8	# Create instances of the loyalty program database and CRM system
	9	self.loyalty_program_db = LoyaltyProgramDatabase()
	10	<pre>self.crm_system = CRMSystem()</pre>
	11	# Create an instance of the POS system with the loyalty program and CRM system
	12	self.pos_system = POSSystem(self.loyalty_program_db, self.crm_system)
	13	
	14	# Example customer and items for testing
	15	<pre>self.customer = Customer("John Doe", "1234567890", "john.doe@example.com") # Create a customer instance</pre>
	16	<pre>self.item1 = Item("ITEM001", "Milk", 2.5) # Create an item instance for Milk</pre>
	17	<pre>self.item2 = Item("ITEM002", "Bread", 1.5) # Create an item instance for Bread</pre>
	18	
	19 ~	det test_start_sale(self):
	20	# Test case IL-001: Start Sale Transaction
	21	# verify that a new sale transaction can be started
	22	setT.pos_system.start_sale() # Start a new sale transaction
	23	Sett.assertiswotwone(sett.pos_system.transaction, "Transaction should be started.") # theck that a transaction is active
- 1	74	



import unittest

1

## ...design today...

GPT4o + PlantUML

# Create an UML class diagram for the POS





# ...design today...

Create a sequence UML diagram for the POS



# ...code (support) today...

Write the code please

$\sim$	class	POSS	ystem:	
$\sim$	de	ef	init	(s)

2 ~ 3 4 5 6	<pre>definit(self, loyalty_program_db, crm_system):     self.loyalty_program_db = loyalty_program_db     self.crm_system = crm_system     self.transaction = None</pre>	
7 ~	<pre>def start_sale(self):</pre>	
8	<pre>self.transaction = Transaction()</pre>	
9	<pre>print("Sale transaction started.")</pre>	
10		
11 ~	<pre>def add_item_to_cart(self, item):</pre>	
12 🗸	if self.transaction:	
13	<pre>self.transaction.add_item(item)</pre>	
14	<pre>print(f"Item {item.name} added to cart.")</pre>	
15 🗸	else:	
16	<pre>print("No active transaction. Please start a sale first.")</pre>	
17		
18 🗸	def enroll_customer(self, customer):	
19 🗸	if customer.provide_consent():	
20 🗸	if self.loyalty_program_db.validate_customer_data(customer):	
21	<pre>self.crm_system.store_customer_details(customer)</pre>	
22	print(f"Customer {customer.name} enrolled in loyalty program.")	
23 🗸	else:	
24	self.handle_enrollment_error()	
25 🗸	else:	
26	<pre>print("Customer did not provide consent for enrollment.")</pre>	
27		
28 ~	<pre>def link_customer_to_sale(self, customer):</pre>	
29 ~	if self.transaction:	
30	<pre>self.transaction.customer = customer</pre>	
31	<pre>loyalty_status = self.loyalty_program_db.retrieve_loyalty_status(customer.phone_number)</pre>	
32	customer.loyalty_status = loyalty_status	
33	<pre>print(f"Customer {customer.name} linked to sale. Loyalty status retrieved.")</pre>	
34 ~	else:	
35	print("No active transaction to link customer to.")	
36	RI Swede	n
	DIT LEADING SOFTWIKE ENGINEER	ING

## ...code (support) today...

### Write the code

please

~	class POSSystem:
~	<pre>definit(self, loyalty_program_db, crm_system):</pre>
	self.loyalty_program_db = loyalty_program_db

2

10

17

21

23 ~

25 ~

32

34 🗸

- self.crm\_system = crm\_system
  colf.transcription
- self.transaction = None
- 7 v def start\_sale(self): 8 self.transaction = Transaction() 9 print("Sale transaction started.")
- 11 ~ def add\_item\_to\_cart(self, item):
- 12 v if self.transaction:
  - self.transaction.add\_item(item)
    print(f"Item {item.name} added to cart.")
  - else:
    - print("No active transaction. Please start a sale first.")
- 18 ~ def enroll\_customer(self, customer):
- 19 v if customer.provide\_consent():
  - if self.loyalty\_program\_db.validate\_customer\_data(customer):
     self.crm\_system.store\_customer\_details(customer)
    - print(f"Customer {customer.name} enrolled in loyalty program.")
  - else:
    - self.handle\_enrollment\_error()
  - else:
    - print("Customer did not provide consent for enrollment.")
- 28 ~ def link\_customer\_to\_sale(self, customer):
  - if self.transaction:
    - self.transaction.customer = customer
    - loyalty\_status = self.loyalty\_program\_db.retrieve\_loyalty\_status(customer.phone\_number)
    - customer.loyalty\_status = loyalty\_status
      print(f"Customer [sustance remained listers]
    - print(f"Customer {customer.name} linked to sale. Loyalty status retrieved.")
    - else:
      - print("No active transaction to link customer to.")



# ...code (support) today...

# Add comments for each line

(oh, with comments...)

7	
	<pre># Class PUSSystem: # Constructor to initialize the POS system with lovalty program and CPM systems</pre>
2	def init (self lovalty program db crm system).
↓ 	self lovalty program db = lovalty program db # Lovalty program database instance
5	self.crm.system = crm.system # CRM.system instance
6	self.transaction = None # Current transaction. initially None
7	
8	# Method to start a new sale transaction
9 🗸	<pre>def start_sale(self):</pre>
10	<pre>self.transaction = Transaction() # Create a new transaction instance</pre>
11	<pre>print("Sale transaction started.") # Inform the cashier that the sale has started</pre>
12	
13	# Method to add an item to the cart
14 ~	def add_item_to_cart(self, item):
15 ~	if self.transaction: # Check if a transaction is active
16	self.transaction.add_item(item) # Add the item to the transaction
17	print(f"Item {item.name} added to cart.") # Inform the cashier that the item was added
18 ~	else:
19	print("No active transaction. Please start a sale first.") # inform the cashier if no transaction is active
20	# Mathad to appall a sustamor in the lovalty prearom
21	# Method to enrott a customer in the toyalty program
22 ~	if customer(sett, customer); # Chack if the customer provides consent
23 ~	if self lovalty program db validate customer data(customer) + #Validate customer data
27 *	self.crm system.store customer details(customer) # Store customer details in the CRM system
26	print(f"Customer {customer.name} enrolled in loyalty program.") # Inform the cashier of successful enrollment
27 ~	else:
28	<pre>self.handle_enrollment_error() # Handle enrollment errors</pre>
29 🗸	else:
30	print("Customer did not provide consent for enrollment.") # Inform the cashier if consent is not given
31	
32	# Method to link a customer to the current sale transaction
33 ~	def link_customer_to_sale(self, customer):
34 ~	if self.transaction: # Check if a transaction is active
35	self.transaction.customer = customer # Link the customer to the transaction
36	loyalty_status = self.loyalty_program_db.retrieve_loyalty_status(customer.phone_number)  # Retrieve loyalty status
3/	customer.loyalty_status = loyalty_status
38	print(Trustomer {customer.name} linked to sale. Loyalty status retrieved.") # inform the cashier
39 ~	else:
40	print wo active transaction to the customer to. / # inform the cashier if no transaction is active



### ... so does it work ...

(well... kind-of-ish...)



# does it work...

### REQUIREMENTS ENGINEERING

Pre-study stuff good start...Efficiency: +++Very fast creation of base partsEfficiency: +++Reasonably complete and accurateEffectiveness: +False sense for completenessVery good to do stuff you normally ignore...

### TESTing

Create a fast base of casesEfficiency: ++Better completion than expected...Effectiveness: +/-Automation capabilities so - so...Effectiveness: +/-Better manual test cases than many people write...Image: Complete test cases than many people write...

### **DESIGN** related

Not bad... fast track UML diagrams rather reasonable

Not really optimized in terms of big picture (architecture)...

Manual work significant for anything non-trivial

Efficiency: + Effectiveness: (+)/-

### CODING

Better than expected... Significant head start Significant clean up, and especially iterating with changes in design... Interesting to see that promising results if design is changed code generation is often improved...

Efficiency: ++ *Effectiveness: "meh"* 

### OTHER

Efficiency: ++ Effectiveness: +

Good summary of compliance (standards.. etc.) Good start to a STRIDE analysis...

I create a lot of fun pictures with AI to add to my powerpoints with no real reason...



### ... so now what ...

(future and predictions n stuff...)



Well I don't know... ... but lets guess...





## fundamentals one: "how do we know"

### "If we can judge the quality of the output, we per definition do not need the output...!"\*

Unreliable confidence estimates

The opacity problem in the context of using "AI"

Lack of model understanding (transparency)

Bias detection Opacity of the training data

Limited explainability

### **EFFICIENCY GAINS ARE FUNDAMENTAL (NOW) and will increase...**

"Tool integration" rather than stand alone New ways to test "truth" and "bias" (3rd party?) Guard rail transparency

\*not true as we can get output faster...



## fundamentals two: "will it improve a lot in the future"

### "the transformer models might not be significantly tweakable AND we can not just throw more data at it"

High cost(s) for training and training and training...

Guard rail race...

Make money... (loose money)

Limitations of the base models

Most data is already used for training

BUT!!! – Even if we have reached "PEAK LLM" – we have barely scratched the surface of application/use

More (smaller) specialized (efficient) models Multimodal shift (combining e.g. text, vision...) Domain specialized models





## fundamentals three: "how do we test"





## fundamentals three: "how do we test"

### "how do we test a non-deterministic system?"

#### Traditional deterministic system...



(output) (predicable/testable output/behavior)

#### (output?)

How do we "quality assure" systems with non-deterministic components (test)

- 3<sup>rd</sup> party (black/grey)
- Learning/under training in "real time"
- Complex interactions of multiple non-deterministic...



# guesswork and thoughts...

### Engineering

- Better programmers, but less programming (validation, what/how loop)
- More "documentation", but **less** documenting (autogenerate JIT representations)
- "Rules" and "regulation" will be counterproductive (and slow things down)...
- Architects will still be important and have the big picture, but more decision makers
- AI tool experts linking multiple AIs and leveraging them in combination



- Work effectively in cross functional teams (communication, coordination, understand and be able to transfer the what/how/why loop)



# guesswork and thoughts...

...

### Role Change

- Legal as we know it now is "in trouble" legal role and function will change...
- Compliance will be much easier (process), Compliance will be much harder (outcome)
  - Compliance will be the great bottle-neck...
  - Invention (heavy human centric), Innovation (significantly AI driven)

### **New Roles**

- AI application experts and quality assurance (new roles, tools and expertise)
- New COST models... (combine architecture, business, vision...)
- CORE TECH EXPERTS (to write / use Als to check Als?!)
- Data scientists will be morphed into: "prompters" + "validators"





work we are currently doing...



# current ongoing research work... (examples)

Requirements engineering

V&V

Tool

Security

Compliance

Development

**Initial "collecting"** requirements LLM based (current system(s), interviews, discussions, documentation, slides, old requirements etc.)  $\rightarrow$  Candidate SRS/Backlog in fraction of the time... = Humans focus on WHY and REFINEMENT rather than "collection"

SIPS with non-deterministic components how will we "assure them"... Al augmented tests (GUI, other...)

Tool integration of SDLC and "AI augmentation..."

(**Pre-**) use of AI (LLMs...) how can we adapt current security models / standards to model threats...

**Compliance Automation** how do we support compliance of actual outcome of a system? How do we monitor if changes in the system break compliance...?

*Compare* AI assisted vs. Non-AI assisted programming... Productivity measures and benefits and challenges. Overall: speed **+**, quality **+/-**, long-

term evolution/maintenance -



## competence development...

**PR.AI.SE** for and with AI

(20 company partners)(5y, 20MSEK)(Real university courses)(Designed FOR professionals!)

### Project 2025 in EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONALS

(how do we re-train (rather enhance) the competence of professionals working today?!)

	Al-enabled Product Management and Requirements Engineering
10+ brand	Software Architecture with AI and for AI-intensive SIPS
new courses	Al-based Software Modeling and Design
FOR	Programming with AI/LLMs
professionals	Software Testing and Quality Assurance with Al
	Applied AI for Software Engineers
Interested?	Software Evolution and Maintenance with AI
(talk to me)	Security in AI-Driven SIPS
	Ethics, Compliance and Legal Implications of AI in Software Engineering
	Managing Software Development with AI: SAFe, DevOps, and CI/CD Integration



### **BTH SERL Sweden** LEADING SOFTWARE ENGINEERING **SERT** In the rethought



### Thank you.

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