

University of Groningen

## Design of a Methodology to Support Software Release Decisions

Sassenburg, J.A.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: You are advised to consult the publisher's version (publisher's PDF) if you wish to cite from it. Please check the document version below.**

*Document Version*

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

*Publication date:*

2006

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

*Citation for published version (APA):*

Sassenburg, J. A. (2006). *Design of a Methodology to Support Software Release Decisions: Do the Numbers Really Matter?*. s.n.

**Copyright**

Other than for strictly personal use, it is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

**Take-down policy**

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

*Downloaded from the University of Groningen/UMCG research database (Pure): <http://www.rug.nl/research/portal>. For technical reasons the number of authors shown on this cover page is limited to 10 maximum.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*“If I have seen further than most men, it is because I stood on the shoulders of giants.”*  
*--Isaac Newton --*

In the first place, I must thank Prof. Dr. Egon Berghout for being my supervisor. He has guided me on this journey from beginning to end. His main contributions were his active support, reviewing my work in a constructive way as a peer, reserving time to discuss the progress made and the next steps, introducing me to his contacts in industry, and inviting me for pleasant dinners in ‘Diner Café Soestdijk’.

I would like to further thank a number of academics: Dr. Ir. Rini van Solingen, very supportive in the first and last phases of the research by reviewing materials, Prof. Dr. Frans Stokman, who introduced me to the fascinating world of social psychology, Prof. Dr. Arjen van Witteloostuijn, who gave me useful feedback on my design ideas on schools of economic thought and competitive strategies, and Prof. Dr. Norman Fenton, who supplied useful comments on software cost estimation, software reliability prediction and software reliability estimation models.

My thanks to the University of Groningen (The Netherlands) and to the University of Bern (Switzerland), for allowing me to visit their libraries.

Finally, I thank a schoolteacher from the past, Theo van der Linden, who laid the foundation for reaching this stage in my academic career.

### *Participating Companies*

I have been able to do much of my research in industry, and I must thank the following representatives of participating companies: Ben Linders, Adrie van Oijen, Laurens Wolterink, John van Lierop and Jaap van de Griend, Michael Manko, Peter Küng, Urs Stoob, Dave de Buck and Gert Korf, and finally Marian Froom, Jan van Moerkerk, Han Tiberius and Jos ten Have. I sincerely hope that the fruits of my labour will be of value to your organizations.

### *Friend*

When I first raised the possibility of conducting PhD research, Henk Ester was the one who motivated me to begin. During the research, he encouraged me from the beginning through to the end; always positive, always giving me early feedback on my quarterly progress reports, and always motivating me to continue. When writing this thesis, he acted as my conscience when reporting, every Sunday, on progress made, measured in number of words written. Hiking in the Swiss Alps also gave us the opportunity to reflect on this project from a greater distance and higher altitude, while not forgetting to enjoy the nice views of the massive Wildstrubel and Seewlehorn (canton Bern, 2003), the impressive Aletsch glacier and Märjelsee (canton Wallis, 2004), and beautiful Tungal Pass and Hohberg (canton Bern, 2005). Our co-operation during this research has strengthened our personal friendship.

### *Family*

I have been away from home many times to conduct case studies and visit university libraries, while this research project has consumed much of my time and energy during this period of some three years. There have never been any complaints from my family. Instead, my wife Ellen has supported me and always shown her confidence in my success. I thank her for this, and dedicate this thesis to her. Finally, I would like to give my daughters Nienke and Renske the honour of being my ‘paranymphs’ when defending my thesis. I know they are looking forward to this.

Hans Sassenburg  
 Lenk (Switzerland) – September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005

