CMMI background

Initially: Capability Maturity Model (CMM), developed by Software Engineering Institute (at Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh) for the US Department of Defense, 1987-1997; meant for software

Widely adopted by Indian outsourcing companies

Generalized into CMMI (version 1.1 in 2002)

SEI itself offers assessments: SCAMPI (Standard CMMI Appraisal Method for Process Improvement)
The maturity levels

1. Process unpredictable, poorly controlled and reactive
2. Process characterized for projects and is often reactive
3. Process characterized for the organization and is proactive
4. Process measured and controlled
5. Focus on process improvement
PSP: Personal Software Process

TSP: Team Software Process

Transposition of CMMI-like ideas to work of individual teams and developers
Management support

The initial TSP objective is to convince management to let the team be self-directed, meaning that it:

- Sets its own goals
- Establishes its own roles
- Decides on its development strategy
- Defines its processes
- Develops its plans
- Measures, manages, and controls its work
Management will support you as long as you:

- Strive to meet their needs
- Provide regular reports on your work
- Convince them that your plans are sound
- Do quality work
- Respond to changing needs
- Come to them for help when you have problems
Management support

Management will agree to your managing your own work as long as they believe that you are doing a superior job.

To convince them of this, you must:

- Maintain and publish precise, accurate plans
- Measure and track your work
- Regularly show that you are doing superior work

The PSP helps you do this
PSP essential practices

- **Measure**, track, and analyze your work
- **Learn** from your performance variations
- **Incorporate lessons learned** into your personal practices
What does a PSP provide?

A stable, mature PSP allows you to

- Estimate and plan your work
- Meet your commitments
- Resist unreasonable commitment pressures

You will also

- Understand your current performance
- Improve your expertise as a professional
As a personal process, PSP includes:

- Defined steps
- Forms
- Standards
- A measurement and analysis framework for characterizing and managing your personal work
- A defined procedure to help improve your personal performance
The PSP process flow

- Requirements
- Planning
- Design
- Code
- Compile
- Test
- Postmortem

- Scripts
- Logs

- Finished product
- Project summary
- Project and process data summary report
A progressive approach

PSP is introduced in six upward-compatible steps

At each step:

- Write one or more modules
- Gather and analyze data on your work
- Use results to improve your personal performance
The steps
Goals at each level

PSP0: Establish a measured performance baseline

PSP1: Make size, resource, and schedule plans

PSP2: Practice defect and yield management
Objective:

- Demonstrate use of defined process for small programs
- Incorporate basic measurements in process
- Minimize changes to your personal practices
PSP0 setup

PSP0 is a simple, defined, personal process:

- Make a plan
- Use your current design and development methods to produce a small program
- Gather time and defect data on your work
- Prepare a summary report
The six phases of PSP0

1. Plan
   Produce plan for developing program from requirements

2. Design
   Produce design specification for the program.

3. Code
   Turn design into executable code (In Eiffel, 2 & 3 are seamless)

4. Compile
   Translate into executable code

5. Test
   Verify that code satisfies requirements

6. Postmortem
   Summarize & analyze project data
Phase order

PSP looks like waterfall but is not

Phase order is determined by dependencies:

- Cannot test code before it has been compiled
- Cannot compile before it has been written
- Cannot use design if produced after code has been written
- No reason to make a plan after you’re done

Conclusion: start here with a plan
Cyclic process flow

Programs that are large programs or not well understood may require an iterative approach.

In this example, each module is separately coded, compiled, and tested.

The example uses PSP0 phases and 2 code-compile-test cycles.
Cyclic process flow

There can be more than 2 cycles

Part size is key factor for determining cycles:
  - Line of code: too small
  - Program: usually too large

Typical: one or more classes or features

Determine what works for you
PSP0.1

Objective: help you to

- Measure size of programs that you produce
- Perform size accounting for these programs
- Make accurate and precise size measurements
Process measurement

To be useful, measurements should be

- Gathered for a specific purpose
- Explicitly defined
- Properly managed
- Properly used

We measure to

- Understand and manage change
- Predict or plan
- Compare one product, process, or organization with another
- Determine adherence to standards
- Provide a basis for control
Measurement objectives

Measurements only produce numbers

To be useful, they must

- Relate to business objectives
- Be properly interpreted
- Lead to appropriate action

If the business purposes for the measurements are not understood

- The wrong data may be gathered
- Data may not be properly used
PSP measurements

Basic PSP data:

- Program size
- Time spent by phase
- Defects found and injected by phase

On every item, gather both actual and estimated data

Measures derived from these data:

- Support planning
- Characterize process quality
Objective:
Establish orderly & repeatable procedure for size estimation

New process elements:
- PROBE size estimating method & template
- Test report template
Estimating with PROBE

Stands for PROxy Based Estimating

Uses proxies to estimate program size and development time

A good proxy helps make accurate estimates
The PROBE estimating method

Start → Conceptual design → Identify and size the proxies → Estimate other element sizes → Estimate program size → Calculate prediction interval → Size estimate and range → Calculate prediction interval → Resource estimate and range
Conceptual design relates the requirements to the parts needed to produce the program

Parts categories:
- **Reused**: Can be used as-is
- **Base**: Exists, requires modifications
- **Added**: needs to be developed
Sizing parts

Reused part: Use actual size

Added part: define proxy
- Identify part type, e.g. parsing, GUI, network...
- Estimate number of items, e.g. routines
- Estimate relative size, i.e. very small, small, medium, large, or very large
- Find size of an item of this part type and relative size in the relative size table
- Estimated size = item size * number of items

Base part: start from actual size; estimate additions, deletions, modifications
Objective: introduce & practice methods for

- Making resource & schedule plans
- Tracking your performance against them
- Judging likely project completion dates

Two new process elements:

- Task planning template
- Schedule planning template

Typically used for projects that take several days or weeks
Objective: introduce

- Design & code reviews
- Methods for evaluating & improving quality of reviews

Two key capabilities added at this level:
- Design and code reviews
- Quality planning

Two new process elements, separate:
- Design review checklist
- Code review checklist
PSP2 introduces quality planning. This involves estimating:

- Total number of defects that will be injected
- Number of defects injected & removed in each process phase
- Amount of time for design and code reviews

& adjusting these parameters to ensure high-quality result
Arguments for reviews over tests

In testing, you must
- Detect unusual behavior
- Figure out what the test program was doing
- Find where the problem is in the program
- Figure out which defect could cause such behavior

This can take a lot of time

With reviews you
- Follow your own logic
- Know where you are when you find a defect
- Know what the program should do, but did not
- Know why this is a defect
- Are in a better position to devise a correct fix
PSP review process principles

Defined review process: guidelines, checklists, standards.

Goal is to find every defect before first compile/test

To meet it, you must:

- Review before compiling or testing
- Use coding standards
- Use design completeness criteria
- Measure and improve your review process
- Use a customized personal checklist
Code reviews

General principles (not specifically from PSP):

- Uncoupled from evaluation process
- Meeting must have chair, secretary
- Chair is not supervisor
- Purpose is to identify faults
- Purpose is not to correct them
- Purpose is not to evaluate developer; keep focus technical
- Strict time limit (e.g. 2 hours)
- Announced sufficiently long in advance
- Participant number: 5 to 10
- Code available in advance, as well as any other documents
- Meeting must be conducted professionally and speedily; chair keeps it focused
Reviews are most effective with personal checklist customized to your own defect experience:

- Use your own data to select the checklist items
- Gather and analyze data on the reviews
- Adjust the checklist with experience

Do the reviews on a printed listing, not on screen

The checklist defines steps and suggests their order:

- Review for one checklist item at a time
- Check off each item as you complete it
Design review principles

In addition to reviewing code, you should also review your designs

Requires that you
- Produce designs that can be reviewed
- Follow an explicit review strategy
- Review design in stages
- Verify that logic correctly implements requirements
Objective: introduce

- Additional measures for managing process quality
- Design templates that provide an orderly framework and format for recording designs

New process elements:

- Design review script
- Design review checklist
- Operational specification template
- Functional specification template
- State specification template
- Logic specification template
Ignore technology assumptions (strict design-code-compile-test cycle) which is not in line with today’s best practices. Retain emphasis on professional engineer’s approach:

- Plan
- Record what you do both qualitatively and quantitatively:
  - Program size
  - Time spent on parts and activities
  - Defects
- Think about your personal process
- Improve your personal process

Tool support, integrated in IDE, is essential