04834580 Software Engineering (Honor Track) 2024-25

Software Development Lifecycle

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- Requirements analysis and definition: The system's services, constraints, and goals are established by consultation with system users.
- System and software design: Establishing an overall system architecture, identifying and describing fundamental abstractions and their relationships.
- Implementation and unit testing: The software design is realized. Unit testing verifies that each unit meets its specification.
- Integration and system testing: The individual program units are integrated and tested as a complete system to ensure that the software requirements have been met.
- Operation and maintenance: The system is installed and put into practical use. Maintenance involves correcting errors, improving the implementation, and enhancing the system's services as new requirements are discovered.

Advantages

- Allows for departmentalization and control
- Easy to use
- Easy to manage

Disadvantages

- Often unrealistic: requirements constantly changing
- Lessons learned in later stages affect earlier ones

Can be useful when requirements are stable and communication cost is high.





[In traditional development model,] the cost to fix a problem in a piece of software rises exponentially over time. A problem that might take a dollar to fix if you found it during requirements analysis might costs thousands to fix once the software is in production. [4]

Spiral Development Model [5]



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- **• Objective setting:** Specific objectives for that phase of the project are defined.
- Risk assessment and reduction: Identify and analyze project risks. Take steps to reduce the risks.
- Development and validation: After risk evaluation, a development model for the system is chosen, e.g. waterfall.
- Planning: The project is reviewed and a decision made whether to continue with a further loop of the spiral.

Advantages

- Early indication of unforeseen problems
- Allows for changes
- The risk reduces as costs increase

Disadvantages

- More complex to run
- Requires proper risk assessment
- Requires more planning and experienced management

Risk in itself is not bad; risk is essential to progress, and failure is often a key part of learning. But we must learn to balance the possible negative consequences of risk against the potential benefits of its associated opportunity. — Roger L. Van Scoy [6]



- Risk identification: You should identify possible project, product, and business risks.
- **Risk analysis:** You should assess the likelihood and consequences of these risks.
- Risk planning: You should make plans to address the risk, either by avoiding it or minimizing its effects on the project.
- Risk monitoring: You should regularly assess the risk and your plans for risk mitigation and revise these when you learn more about the risk.

- Project Risks: Risks that affect the project schedule or resources. An example of a project risk is the loss of an experienced designer.
- Product Risks: Risks that affect the quality or performance of the software being developed. An example of a product risk is the failure of a purchased component to perform as expected.
- Business Risks: Risks that affect the organization developing or procuring the software. For example, a competitor introducing a new product is a business risk.

Assess **risk probability** (e.g. insignificant, low, moderate, high, very high) and **effect** (e.g. catastrophic, serious, tolerable, insignificant).

Risk	Probability	Effect
Organizational financial problems force reduction in the project budget	Low	Catastrophic
Key staff are ill at critical times in the project	Moderate	Serious
Software tools cannot be integrated	High	Tolerable
Changes to requirements that require major design rework are proposed	Moderate	Serious

$\mathsf{Risk}\ \mathsf{Exposure} = \mathsf{Risk}\ \mathsf{Probability} \times \mathsf{Risk}\ \mathsf{Effect}$

Risk probability

		High	Moderate	Low
Risk effect	Catastrophic	High	High	Moderate
	Serious	High	Moderate	Moderate
	Tolerable	Moderate	Moderate	Low
	Insignificant	Moderate	Low	Low



2008's study with 8 new Microsoft developers showed that programming occupies only 10–20% of their time. [7]

2015's study with 18 developers showed that they spend 70% of their time on understanding. [8]



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