Components/Processor Registers

Motherboard	The central interface for all the components of a PC. Everything connects to the motherboard via slots, wires, readouts and connectors.
Processor (CPU)	A combination of registers than manipulate data between the registers. The speed of a processor is measured in the number of instructions it can complete per second (Hz). Modern computers speed is measured in GHz.
Secondary Storage	Used to store programs and data. It can be partitioned to allow for dual-booting multiple operating systems.

≡

Processor Structure

≡

Components/Processor Registers (cont)

Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU)	The ALU carries out arithmetic calculations and comparisons. The result of any calculation is sent to the Accumulator
Control Unit (CU)	The CU controls the operation of the hardware, inc. input and output devices, it controls the Fetch-Decode-Execute cycle.
Clock	The clock is the part that regulates the cycle of the CPU. It provides a regular pulse of high voltage then low voltage. This high-low transition is a cycle, each cycle is an instruction
Program Counter (PC)	This register holds the address of the next instruction to be executed, the PC is automatically implemented to the next instruction, unless the previous instruction was a jump.

Components/Processor Registers (cont)

Memory Buffer Register (MBR)	Values fetched from memory are sent to MBR.
Memory Address Register (MAR)	The location in memory of the current instruction/data being fetched.
Current Instruction Register (CIR)	The instruction currently being executed/decoded
Data Bus	Carries the data between memory and the MBR
Address Bus	Carries the memory location of the instructions/data being received.
Control Bus	A bus with 2 states, set or enable, which govern if the data bus is reading or writing to memory

≡

Fetch Decode Execute

≡

By **0llieC** (0llieC)
cheatography.com/0lliec/

Published 20th February, 2019.
Last updated 12th June, 2017.

Components/Processor Registers (cont)

Fetch

The PC contents are copied to the MAR

Instruction at address in MAR → MBR

MBR → CIR

↓

Decode

Instruction is decoded into:

1. Operand → The data to preform an instruction on

2. Op-Code → The instruction

↓

Execute

Instruction executed

If data is being committed to memory, its held in the MBR

Cycle repeats until stop instruction

≡

Factors affecting Processor Performance

≡

Multiple Cores	The increase in number of cores, allows for a greater throughput of data. If the software is threaded - can use multiple cores - it will divide up tasks to the different cores. **However**, it must be coded in, else it will use the single core.

Components/Processor Registers (cont)

Cache Size	Cache is a small amount of **very** fast memory. Repeatedly used instructions and data is stored in the cache for quick access. The bigger the cache, the more can be stored on it thus reducing processing time
Clock Speed	The clock regulates the instruction execution rate. The faster the clock, the more cycles completed per second.

Components/Processor Registers (cont)

Pipelining	Where the stages of the F-D-E cycle are 'stacked' so that they can be processed at the same time. While one instruction is being fetched, the previous is being decoded. This may not necessarily increase processing time but throughput is increased. **Issues** • If an instruction requires the result of a previous instruction, the CPU will remain dormant → leading to 'bubbles'/pipeline stalls in the pipeline. • Jumps → lead to the pipeline having to be flushed due to the change in instructions **Hyper-Threading** → Where the CPU is intelligent enough to fill the bubbles caused by pipeline stalls with other non-dependant instructions from separate threads.

Components/Processor Registers (cont)

Processor Architecture

Von-Neuman	The Von-Neumann architecture is commonly used in most PCs. It stores both programs and data in the same memory. Using the F-D-E cycle, it carries out a single instruction at a time. **Pros** + More Robust than Harvard (older) + Single Storage **Cons** - Each Instruction takes 2 cycles (fetch/decode and execute) - Cannot implement pipelining

Components/Processor Registers (cont)

Harvard	The Harvard architecture stores programs and data in **separate** memory and uses the control unit at the centre of the structure. Generally used in embedded systems. **Pros** + Can complete an instruction in a single clock cycle (assuming pipelining is used) + Modern + Can implement pipelining **Cons** - Separate Memory

RISC/CISC

Components/Processor Registers (cont)

CISC	**CISC (Complex Instruction Set Computing)** • One instruction can complete an entire sequence - more complex • Higher Power Consumption • Powerful • Generates more heat
RISC	**RISC (Reduced Instruction Set Computing)** • Only one value fetched/stored per instruction cycle • Less Power Required • Used in smaller devices (Smartphones) • Generates less heat - requires less cooling methods

Flynn's Taxonomy

Components/Processor Registers (cont)

SISD	**Single Instruction, Single Data-stream** Single Core CPUs **NB**: • No parallelism • Single CU, fetches single instruction
SIMD	**Single Instruction, Multiple Data-streams** GPUs **NB**: • One instruction preformed on many data-streams • Naturally parallelised operations • Examples: Fractal Rendering, Graphics Processing (hence GPUs) - each pixel is independant

Components/Processor Registers (cont)

MIMD	**Multiple Instructions, Multiple Data-streams** Multi-core CPUs **NB**: • Multiple autonomous processors simultaneously executing different instructions on different data • Uses either one shared memory space or a distributed memory space.

Software Generation

Specific Application	A piece of software that has a specific purpose, such as order entry, payroll, stock management etc. It may be **Bespoke** (made to order) or **Off-the-shelf** (designed to be used in a variety of situations).

Software Generation (cont)

General Purpose Application	An application that allows the user to produce their own solution to a problem. Most are sold as a package/a license. **Examples** • Word Processing • Desktop Publishing • Spreadsheets • Database Management • CAD/CAM • Presentation Software **Specific Examples** • Microsoft Office • Adobe Suite

By **0llieC** (0llieC)
cheatography.com/0lliec/

Published 20th February, 2019.
Last updated 12th June, 2017.

Software Generation (cont)

Open Source vs. Closed Source

Open Source → Source code is readable to anybody and freely modifiable.

Closed Source → Executable only, source code is kept hidden.

Pros of OS

• Free (usually)
• Community Coding/Bug Fixing - Usually faster than any closed-source
• Customisable
• Freedom to do what you like

Pros of CS

• Professional Development
• Lower security risks
• Well documented and customer support

Software Generation (cont)

Translator Software

Software that convert one programming language into another. There are 3 catagories: Compilers, Interpreters and Assemblers.

Assemblers → Convert Assembly into machine specific machine code. Assembly language consists of mnemonics that represent different instructions. It is converted to binary (machine code)

Interpreters → Checks and executes code line by line.

Compiler → Checks all the codes syntax, semantics and logic and then converts the code into Object code (usually machine code or similar low-level). The compiled code is usually what is distributed.

≡

Stages of Compilation

≡

Lexical Analysis

↓

Software Generation (cont)

Firstly the code is striped of anything uneeded such as comments and redundant whitespace

The code is then divided into Lexemes (the smallest 'unit' of code).

Tokens are then assigned to each lexeme indicating what it is. Some token examples:
• Identifiers - for variables, subroutines, classes etc.
• Keywords - new, if, for, while etc.
• Operators - +, - , / , == etc.
• Literals - fixed numbers and strings
• Symbols - {}, (), ; etc.

Errors are caused when a lexeme cannot be assigned a token

Syntax Analysis

↓

The stream of tokens generated is then analysed to check they match the rules of the language. Tree data structures are often used in this process.

An example of valid syntax would be:

String word = "Hello, World!";
Datatype Literal Operator StringLiteral Symbol

Errors occur when a series of tokens cannot be matched to a rule, such as multiple datatypes.

Semmantic Analysis

↓

Software Generation (cont)

The stage where code is checked for logical errors. For example:
• Datatype mismatch - assigning a String to an int
• Undeclared Variables, or out of scope variables
• Multiple variable declarations
• Array out of bounds with an integer literal.

Errors occur when one of the rules are broken. **NB** Not all semantic errors can be caught during compilation. For example accessing an array with a integer variable is logically fine, but the integer value may be out of bounds causing a run-time error.

Intermediate Code Generation/Optimisation

The code is then converted into intermediate code (Java to Java bytecode, where it remains until use - not all languages do this)

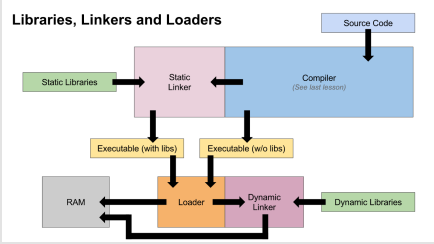
Intermediate code is machine *independent*

The code is then optimised, so that it runs faster and requires less resources, but still having the same output.

Machine Code Generation/Optimisation

The final stage of compilation is the conversion to machine code. **This process has to be repeated for each processor as it is machine dependant**. Specific optimisations are also done on the separate processors as code that works well with one instruction set may not work as well with another.

Libraries, Linkers and Loaders



Library → Generic name for a collection of programs used in development. Some languages have native ones. Saves time as the developers don't have to create their own code.
Linker → Combines object and library files
Loader → Loads the object code into memory to be executed

Testing Strategies

Black Box (Alpha)	Testing that examines the functionality of a application, without looking at its internal code/structures.
White Box	Tests the internal structure/workings of a application rather than its functionality (opposite of black box)
Top Down	Testing of modules and sections of code that aren't yet implement. Testing the behaviour between modules.
Top Down	Testing of modules and sections of code that aren't yet implement. Testing the behaviour between modules.

Testing Strategies (cont)

Bottom Up	Testing each part of the application individually then testing the parts that rely on the section/module.
Usability (Beta)	Testing how easy a system is to use by testing it with real users. It shows how somebody without a working knowledge of the application would use the system and any problems they might find.
Test Data	A range of test data must be used to properly test a system. It should include: • Normal Data • Boundary Data • Standard Incorrect Data - incorrect data that could easily be entered • Standard invalid data - e.g. text into numeric fields • Extreme data - data that would never be entered normally, used to test the limits of a system

OOP

Class	A 'blueprint', a combination of attributes and methods that create an object.
Object	An instance of a class.
Encapsulation	Where attributes and methods are wrapped in their objects. Access modifiers control how the methods and the attributes can be accessed, whether that be by any class, or only within its own class.
Inheritance	A relationship among classes where a child class shares methods/attributes with its parent class. The child classes can also have their own independent attributes/methods but all child nodes share the ones inherited from the parent.
Abstract Class	A class which contains attributes and methods like a normal class, but the class itself cannot be instantiated. An example is an Animal, you can write an abstract class, but you cannot create just an Animal.

OOP (cont)

Polymorphism	A feature of a programming language that allows routines to use variables of different types at different times. For example, overloading constructors which behave differently depending on their parameters

Web Technologies

HTML (Hypertext Markup Language)	The standard language for displaying webpages. A HTML document starts with <!DOCTYPE html> <html> It consists of tags which are opened and closed <tag> </tag>. Each document has a head and a body.
	<h1>{{ml}}<h2>...
	Link Text
	<img scr="path/to/image.jpg" alt="picture">
	Normal Paragraph text
CSS (Cascading Style Sheet)	The standard way to style webpages, whether internal or externalised. Externalised stylesheets allow developers to keep design and content completely separate.

Web Technologies (cont)

JS (JavaScript)	JS is an interpreted code that adds interactivity to websites. It works on virtually all hardware and is used on nearly all websites. For example there are currently 300,000 JS repos on Github, Java has 200k
Search Engine Indexing	A search engine searches through webpages, for certain keywords and phrases. Problem Indexes are used, when a new document (webpage) is added, the words/phrases are tokenised, and added to the list.

Web Technologies (cont)

PageRank Algorithm	Google's algorithm that calculates the weighting of webpages. All pages have an initial rank, but for each link, it gives a certain amount to the webpage linked. Other algorithms are also used to give pages different rankings depending on what the user is searching for.
Client-Side Processing	Processing preformed in the browser, usually JS. This allows user entered data to be checked before sending it to the server, which reduces the load on the server. For example, ensuring an email has an @, or a password is a certain number of characters. Anybody can view the code for client-side processing, so its best for just verification

Web Technologies (cont)

Server-Side Processing	Processing performed on the server. The code is only viewable to people with access to the server-files. It processes requests and serves a webpage based on the requests

Data Structures

Array	A data structure used to whole elements of the same data type.
1D Array	An Array with a single dimension, i.e. it only has a given length
2D Array	An array with 2 dimensions. It is commonly used to represent coordinates or a table, with the indexes relating to rows/columns
3D Array	An array with 3 dimensions. It is used for representing 3D space so is also used for coordinates a lot.
Linked List	A data structure where each element in the list points to the next one. This makes is very easy to add/remove/reorder elements as only the pointer needs to change each time.

Data Structures (cont)

Queue	A First In, First Out (FIFO) data structure. When coding a queue, there must be the possibility to: • Check if the queue is full • Read/Remove/Return an element from the front of the Q • Place a new element at the end of the Q
Circular Queue	The end of a queue linking back to the beginning.
Stack	A First In, Last Out (FILO) data structure. When coding a stack, there must be the possibility to: • Check if the stack is full/empty • Read/Remove/Return an element from the top of the stack (pop) • Add a new value to the top of the stack (push)
Graph	A set of nodes/vertices connected by edges.
Directional-Graph-	A graph where the edges have a direction.

Data Structures (cont)

Bi-Directional Graph	A graph where the edges have 2 way directions. ↔
Trees	A tree is a simple un-directed graph which contains no loops. A tree has a root where all other nodes/edges originate from
Binary Tree	A tree where each node has a maximum of 2 sub-nodes. Nodes with no child nodes are called leafs, and the edges, branches.
Hash Table	A table where the index system is the data the person is looking for, but

L.O.R. (*) Questions

Data Protection Act	***8 Principles***: 1. Personal data must be obtained **lawfully** and **fairly** 2. P.D. must be held for a **specified** purpose 3. P.D. must be **adequate, relevent** and **not excessive** 4. P.D. must be kept **up-to-date** and **accurate** 5. P.D. must not be kept **longer than necessary** 6. P.D. must be processed in accordance with **data subjects** rights 7. P.D. must be kept **securely** 8. P.D. must not be **transferred outside the EU without permission**

L.O.R. (*) Questions (cont)

Computer Misuse Act	**Level 1: Unauthorised Access** • Accessing secure parts of a computer, that they are unauthorised to access • In organisations, accessing secure parts that are beyond your rights. **Level 2: Unauthorised Access with intent to commit a Crime** • Level 1 + intent to commit another crime. **Level 3: Unauthorised Modification** Includes intent to: • Impair the operation of any PC • Prevent or hinder access to a program • Impair the operation of any program or reliability of data.

L.O.R. (*) Questions (cont)

Copyright, Designs & Patents Act	Protects individuals/organisations intellectual data. It protects: • Income for the authors - Allows the author to license the data. • Cost of creating the product - some products can cost thousands to produce • Quality of Produce - pirates often alter products to bypass security • Alteration Protection - Altering programs can have unintended aftereffects.

L.O.R. (*) Questions (cont)

Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act	This act allows government agencies, to request access to secure information. It makes provisions for: • Interception of communication • Acquisition and disclosure of data • Surveillance • Access to electronic data protected by encryption.

≡

Moral/Ethical/Social Issues

Computers in the Workplace	• Big Brother concern - an employer could watch over employees • Reduced Productivity - employees can do multiple things at once, which may reduce productivity as employees may 'waste' time

L.O.R. (*) Questions (cont)

Automated Decision Making	Computers are starting to have the ability to make decisions based on input data. Usually it can be better than any human making the same decision. The issue is what happens when the wrong decision is made, who is to blame?
AI	This is the one of the biggest issues, as AI use is rising among recent years. The issues are the same as automated decision making, but more issues arise when you consider cognitive/when is a computer considered alive?
Environment	The increase in use of computers = more RAW materials Another issue is the disposal of old parts/devices.

L.O.R. (*) Questions (cont)

Censorship	Moral concerns are raised at whether the internet should be censored, would it be restricting the freedom of information. The issues arise when considering adult content, and piracy.
Monitoring Behaviour	It is possible to monitor what individuals are using a computer for, there is a moral issue when considering how much should an individual be monitored, and the issues based on a persons privacy.
Personal Information	Rises a privacy concern. Computers can now monitor peoples information and collect it. When does this become a breach of privacy.
Piracy	Breaking the law (C.D.P.) but people do it anyway.

L.O.R. (*) Questions (cont)

Offensive Material	Computers are general purpose, what people do with them can be considered offensive/morally wrong e.g. cyberbullying, which can have drastic effects

Input/Output/Storage

Input Device	A device (piece of computer hardware equipment) that is used to provide data and control signals to an information processing system such as a computer or information appliance. **Examples of input devices include keyboards, mouse, scanners, digital cameras and joysticks.**
Output Device	is any device used to send data from a computer to another device or user. Most computer data output that is meant for humans is in the form of audio or video. **Examples include monitors, projectors, speakers, headphones and printers.**

≡

Memory

≡

Input/Output/Storage (cont)

HDD/Magnetic	Information is held in blocks consisting of tracks and sectors. Each block contains the same amount of information, therefore information is more dense closer to the centre. **Rotation Speed** • A HDD consists of a very fast spinning disk (5400 - 7200 rpm) • A reading head is suspended above the disk due to the Bernoulli effect • Due to fast speeds, the housing **has** to be evacuated **Capacity vs Cost** • Largest HDD avaliable ~ 12TB. • Roughly 3p per GB. (£0.000000000027915 per Byte)

Input/Output/Storage (cont)

SDD/Flash	A storage medium that has no moving parts. It uses a data controller to control the read/write of data. 2 rules of the data controller: **1.** You can combine pages to form a block, but a block **cannot** overwrite individual pages **2.** Before writing to a memory location, the page previously allocated must be erased. **Pros** • Low Latency Time • Fast Transfer speed **Cons** • More Expensive **Capacity vs Cost** • Largest: ~4TB • Roughly 30p per GB (£0.000000000291625 per Byte)

Input/Output/Storage (cont)

Disc/Optical	A storage medium that uses binary pits to encode data. A laser is beamed at the disk and uses the diffraction of the light to detect a 0/1 (trough/peak). **Read-only**: A laser is used to burn the disks, the data cannot be changed **Re-Writable**: A dye is used where if a high temp is used, it will go opaque (creating a peak - 1) and if a higher temp is used it goes transparent (a trough - 0). The disk is now reusable.
Speeds	**Solid State**: 200 to 2500 MB/s **Hard-Drive**: 1030 MB/s **Optical (x1 Speeds)**: - Blue-ray: 4.29 MB/s - DVD: 1.32 MB/s - CD: 0.15 MB/s

Input/Output/Storage (cont)

RAM	The 'working' area of the computer. Programs and data currently in use is stored in the RAM. On startup the BIOS loads the OS into the RAM. **Characteristics** • Random Access - allows data items to be read or written in almost the same amount of time irrespective of the physical location of data inside the memory. • **Volatile** → emptied on power down • ~1-16GB
ROM	A permanent area of storage. The contents cannot be altered by software. Contents of ROM is written at manufacture **Characteristics** • Read-Only Access • **Non-Volatile** → retains data at power down • Mainly used to store firmware or application software in plug-in cartridges. • ~4MB • Examples of ROM: Bootloader (BIOS/UEFI),

Input/Output/Storage (cont)

BIOS/UEFI	Basic Input Output System/Unified Extensible Firmware Interface The BIOS is preforms the hardware initialisation during the bootup, and provides runtime services between the OS and hardware. UEFI was designed to be the successor to the BIOS
Virtual Memory	When the RAM is full, the OS uses some of the secondary storage as Virtual Memory. This means the computer can continue to run. Pages (blocks of data) are transferred to the virtual memory when not needed thus freeing up space, and returned to RAM when they are needed.

Operating System

Operating System	Software that provides: • Process Management • Memory Management • Device Management • User Interface • File Management **Fundamentally its software that manages/interfaces computer hardware and software**

Operating System (cont)

Kernel	The very core of the OS that provides the interface between the user and the hardware. Applications use the kernel to send/receive data from hardware.

Operating System (cont)

Memory Management	A OS must manage the computers memory including adding/removing programs and data from RAM, allowing multiple programs to be run at the same time. The OS also reallocates memory when it is no-longer in use (i.e. when a program is closed) **Paging vs Segmentation & Virtual Memory** • Segmentation. → Memory is split into variable sized blocks, and programs are segmented, with each segment being a logical divider. A segment table then maps segments onto memory blocks. Generally slower than paging due to the placement algorithm • Paging. → RAM is split into fixed sized blocks - frames. Programs are split into same-sized blocks - pages. Any page can be placed in any frame, easy to allocate as all equal size. • If the RAM is full. Pages are transferred to the secondary storage acting as memory - Virtual Memory. Pages are moved in/out as needed. • Thrashing → is when pages are being constantly swapped between RAM and V.Mem. It can cause speed issues as the secondary storage's speed << RAM's speed.

Operating System (cont)

Interrupts	Interrupts are a form of error checking. If an error occurs, the interrupt is stored in a priority queue. After the next instruction has been executed, the interrupt queue is checked for any interrupt and the processor runs a set of instructions called the Interrupt Service Routine (ISR), with each interrupt having its own ISR. Before the ISR is run, the current values in the registers are stored, so that the processor can return to its previous position. Examples of interrupt types are: • I/O Interrupt → A status of a channel has changed, Occurs when an IO operation is complete or a device is ready. • Timer Interrupt → Allows the processor to preform tasks at intervals • Program Check → Most commonly memory access violations - accessing memory that doesn't exist or is not in use • Machine Check → when hardware

Operating System (cont)

Process Management	Involves the scheduling and switching of programs and threads. Modern PCs have 'multitasking' but it is just clever scheduling.

Operating System (cont)

Scheduling Techniques

First Come, First Served

As the name suggests.

• Poor Efficiency

Round Robin

Each process has a set number of processing time. Processor switches in a circular fashion

• Easy Implementation

• Can be inefficient

• Time can be lost waiting for inputs

Shortest Job First

The process with the shortest processing time is processed

• Long Process can be waiting a long time - processor starvation

Shortest time *remaining*

The process with the shortest remaining processing time is processed. If another job with a shorter time remaining arrives, it will switch

• Short jobs executed quickly

• Starvation can still occur

Multi-Level Queue

Processes are given a priority when they arrive, dep. on their time remaining, process type and memory size.

• Important jobs processed first

Multi-Level Feedback Queue

Same as a MLQ but the processor can change the priority of a process, most likely due to a process taking up too much processing time.

• Stops starvation

• Allows interactivity

• Priorities can be changed

Operating System (cont)

Types of OS

Embedded

• Mostly hidden in devices, generally within the hardware themselves.

• Built into objects

• Have a dedicated purpose

• Little/no user interface

• Fully Autonomous

• Use limited resources - only whats required

Multi-Tasking

• Several programs/processes at the same time (concurrent).

• Can either be process management or through parallel processing

• Most General Purpose OS' are now Multitasking

Multi-User

• Must be a multi-tasking OS too

• Several users accessing the processor/programs/resources at the same time.

• Usually a round robin approach.

• Shared processing.

Real-Time

• Inputs being processed under strict time limits. For requirements:

1. Support Non-Sequential programs

2. Handle parallel and unpredictable events

3. Produce responses within the time limit

4. Have fail-safes to guarantee response time

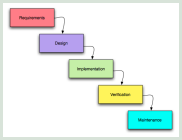
Distributed

A collection of independent nodes, each with its own hardware. The OS presents the systems as an individual. For example: AI; Weather Forecasting; Online Shopping. Each may have the main system on one server, and other things processed on another. The pros of this are that it reduces the load on one computer, and if one fails, it may be able to continue.

Operating System (cont)

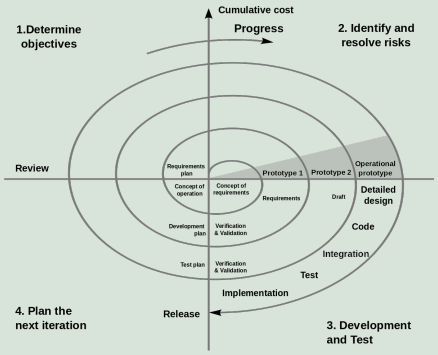
Device Management	The OS can make devices acessible to other programs through the use of Device Drivers. It is a piece of software that controls the hardware and provides the interface so that programs and the OS can use the device. Devices cause interrupts on the processor and depending on its priority is when the interrupt is processed.

Waterfall Method



Each of the stages are classified as *milestones*. Following the methodology strictly would mean the system is developed flowing down the waterfall. Another version exists where there is iteration back up the steps.

Spiral Method

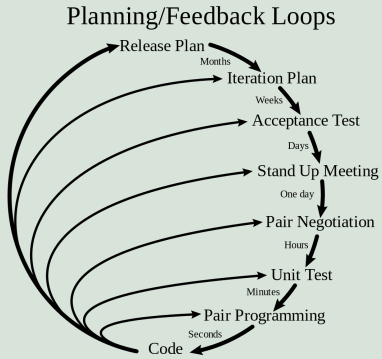


The method starts in the centre and spirals outwards. The purpose is to eliminate/reduce any project failures by constantly returning to each of the milestones. The review stage is where the client is consulted with to determine the progress.

RAD

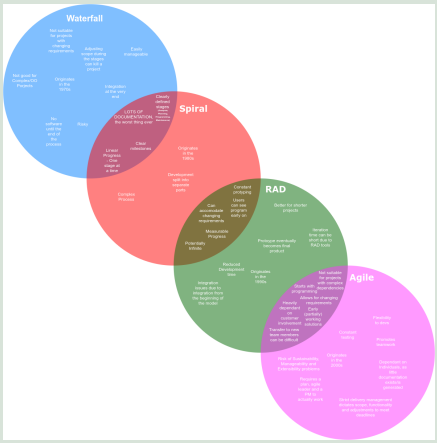
This development methodology requires minimal documentation, but requires a high amount of involvement of the client as a prototype is created, then reviewed then improved upon.

Extreme Programming



This is one on the agile approaches to software development. It allows for client changes throughout the life cycle and the constant review of progress and client involvement give it its name as 'extreme'.

Methodology Comparison



Programming paradigms

Object Orientated	Code is divided into objects which possess state and behaviour. Follows the principles of encapsulation, abstraction, inheritance and polymorphism.
Logic	The code consists of a series of rules which define a scenario. Answers can be obtained by asking questions in a specific format.
Data Query Languages	Queries to a database or other data structure are specified by what is wanted rather than how to get it.
Scripting	Code is written to automate processes rather than create entire applications. Scripting languages are often embedded into other systems.
Procedural	Allows structured programming with sequence, selection, iteration and recursion. Code can be made modular with the use of procedures.

Programming paradigms (cont)

Functional	Code is divided into isolated functions. There is no global state, only arguments and return values are important. Closely linked to mathematics.
Assembly Languages	One to one correspondence between lines of code and processor instructions. Unlike raw machine code however, you can have variable names and labels.

Compression

Lossless	Compressing a file without the loss of data
Lossy	Compressing a file by removing redundant data.
Run Length Encoding (RLE)	RLE identifies repeating patterns of data and stores a copy of the information and how many times it occurs in succession.

Compression (cont)

Dictionary-based	Uses a substring search to match strings in the file to be compressed to those stored in a dictionary. If a match is found then the string is substituted for the dictionary index. If no match is found, the string is added to the dictionary

Encryption and Hashing

Symmetric Encryption	Encryption that uses the same key to both encrypt and decrypt. **Uses**: Encrypted Harddrives
Asymmetric Encryption	Encryption where different keys encrypt and decrypt the data. **Uses**: Online transactions

Encryption and Hashing (cont)

Client-Server Communication	The client generates a **session key** and uses the **public key** to encrypt it ⬇ The server decrypts the session key with the **private key** ⬇ Client-Server now communicate using **symmetric encryption with the session key**
Private Key	The private key consists of 2 **very** large prime numbers
Public Key	The public key is the product of the 2 prime numbers making the private key. As no efficient non-quantum integer factorisation algorithm exists, it is practically impossible to crack the private key by brute force.

By **0llieC** (0llieC)
cheatography.com/0lliec/

Published 20th February, 2019.
Last updated 12th June, 2017.

Encryption and Hashing (cont)

Hashing	Using an algorithm to map data of any size to a fixed size. Unlike encryption, hashing **cannot** be undone, it is therefore a lossy process. **Uses**: • Rapid data access in a hash table • Error checking and corruption detection - such as downloads • Password verification - the plain-text password would not have to be stored *A good hash algorithm:** • Same message = Same hash • Quick to compute • Impossible to generate a message from the hash • A small change = a big hash change • Impossible to find 2 messages with the same hash

Databases

Database	A structured system to hold data
Relational Database	a database structured to recognize relations between stored items of information.
Flat File Database	A flat file database is a database that stores data in a plain text file. Each line of the text file holds one record, with fields separated by delimiters, such as commas or tabs. While it uses a simple structure, a flat file database cannot contain multiple tables like a relational database can.
Entity	Any item about which data is stored e.g. Student, Pizza, Stock etc.
Attribute	A feature of the entity
Foreign Key	A unique identifier to each record held in the relational database.
Composite Primary Key	A combination of 2+ fields that act as a primary key
Foreign Key	A way to build a relationship between 2 tables, the foreign key is another tables primary key

Databases (cont)

Secondary Key	A key that is indexed to allow for faster searching. There can be multiple secondary keys and they don't have to be unique.
Inner Join	Combining columns from one+ tables by using values common to each. SELECT table1.column1, table2.column2... FROM table1 **INNER JOIN** table2 **ON** table1.common_field = table2.common_field;

≡

Normal Forms

≡

1NF	• Each row is unique - it has a primary key • Each column has a unique name • No columns with similar or repeated data (i.e. choice1, choice2 etc.) • Each data item cannot be broken up any further - no commas in the data

By **0llieC** (0llieC)
cheatography.com/0lliec/

Published 20th February, 2019.
Last updated 12th June, 2017.

Databases (cont)

2NF	• 1NF • If the primary key is a composite of attributes (contains multiple columns), the non-key attributes (columns) must depend on the whole key.
3NF	• 1NF • 2NF • There are no non-key attributes that depend on other non-key attributes

≡

CRUD

≡

CREATE	INSERT INTO tableName (fieldNames) VALUES (values)
READ	SELECT fieldNames FROM tableName WHERE fieldName = value ORDER BY fieldName
UPDATE	UPDATE tableName SET fieldName = value WHERE fieldName = value
DESTROY	DELETE FROM tableName where fieldName = value DROP tableName

≡

ACID Principles (Transactions)

≡

Databases (cont)

Atomicity	Transactions are either done, or not done. **Never partially applied**
Consistency	Referential Integrity and other constraints must be adhered to
Isolation	Transactions preformed simultaneously must have the same result as if they were preformed sequentially
Durability	Transactions that have been committed must be done fully and remain so.

≡

Concurrent Accessing

≡

Concurrent Access	Is ensuring that more than one user can at least view data at the same time.
Record Locking	Making a file read-only to anybody else who opens the file while changes are being made.
Deadlock	When 2 separate transactions lock the file the other transaction needs, thus both are in a state of waiting.

Databases (cont)

Serialisation	Create a clone of the data item, so the user can make changes, then upload a copy of the clone to the database. This will ensure that no updates or changes can be lost due to uploading a copy of the local version.
Timestamp Ordering	A non-lock way of concurrent access, so multiple people can access the data at one time. The main process is that the lower timestamps occur first.

Networks

Standard	A definition or a format that has been approved by a recognised standards organisation. **de jeur** (by force of law) or **de facto** a standard that has just been accepted over time

By **0llieC** (0llieC)
cheatography.com/0lliec/

Published 20th February, 2019.
Last updated 12th June, 2017.

Networks (cont)

Protocol	An agreed-upon format for exchanging data between devices. It determines: • The error checking used • Compression method, if any • How the sender will indicate end of transmission • How the receiver will indicate the data has been received.
LAN	**Local Area Network** • Geographically Small (buildings/a site) • Equipment is generally owned by the company/people using it • Generally Faster • Uses layers 1 and 2 devices - hubs/switches

Networks (cont)

WAN	**Wide Area Network** • Geographically remote (across a country/between continents/the w.w.w.) • Connects LANs together with third party telecommunication equipment • Slower speed than LAN • Uses layer 3 devices - routers/multi-layer switches

Networks (cont)

Network Topologies	**Bus Topology** • All devices connected to a central cable (backbone) • Devices have equal rights • Collisions can occur if multiple devices send data at once **Star Topology** • A hub at the centre of the network. Requests are sent to all other devices connected to is • The hub reads the packets and determines the MAC address of the recipient **Ring Topology** • A token is passed around the ring until one of the devices requests to use it. • The token is filled with the frame of data • It is passed around the network to each device until it reaches the recipient • Recipient acknowledges the data has arrived.

Networks (cont)

Client-Server

• One entity (client) requests services from another (server)
• Server stores security information e.g. logins and permissions.

Pros

+ Centralised control
+ Single data storage
+ Easy backing up and restoring
+ Remote access
+ Can define security rights and permissions

Cons

- Too many requests can cause congestion
- If the server fails, whole network goes down
- Expensive to install and manage
- Requires professionals to install and manage

Networks (cont)

Peer-to-Peer

• All computers have equal rights and act as both a client and server
• Popular applications include the BitTorrent Network, and BitCoin

Pros

+ Easy to set up
+ More reliable as central dependencies are eliminated
+ No-need for a system administrator as every user is the admin of their machine
+ Cheaper to implement and maintain.

Cons

- Difficult to administor as there is no central dependency
- Less security therefore viruses and other malware can easily be transmitted
- Data recovery is difficult as there is no central storage, each computer requires ots own backup system
- "(Lots of movies, tv shows and music are transferred using P2P, via torrents)"

Networks (cont)

Packet Switching

A message/data is broken into a number of parts (packets) which are sent independently, over whatever route is optimum for each packet, and reassembled at the destination.

Pros

+ Efficient use of a network
+ Can easily circumvent broken sections of a network
+ Network only has to increase slowly as demand does

Cons

- Time taken to rebuild packets is variable - an issue for time-sensitive data
- Not good for small data.

By **0llieC** (0llieC)
cheatography.com/0lliec/

Published 20th February, 2019.
Last updated 12th June, 2017.

Networks (cont)

Circuit Switching	Communication where a dedicated channel (or circuit) is established for the duration of a transmission. **Pros** + Data arrives in order sent + No additional information has to be added - e.g. headers **Cons** - Portion of the network is unavailable while in use - Data is easily intercepted.
Domain Name System (DNS)	A system that converts the web address: www.website.something into the IP address of the host server.
MAC Address	Unique 6-byte identifier that is given to NICs. Assigned to the NIC by the manufacturer.

Networks (cont)

IPv4	Most commonly used IP version. Its a 32-bit system, so there are 2^{32} addresses available.
IPv6	IPv6 is a 128-bit address, so there are 2^{128} addresses available.

≡

TCP/IP Stack

≡

Application Layer

↓

The Application layer ensures the data is sent in an understandable format by the recipient. It formats the data to meet the standards of the protocol.

Transport Layer

↓

The transport layer takes the data and splits it into data packets. Each one is given a number, specifying the order so it can be reconstructed. The port number is also added depending on the application being used for example HTTP is port 80.

Network Layer

↓

Networks (cont)

The network layer is where the IP of the sender is attached, so the recipient can send a message saying the packets were received. It also attaches the recipients IP. This is also the layer where the Time To Live (TTL) is added to the header. It governs how many times the packet can hop before deleting itself, this ensure infinite loops don't occur.

Link Layer

↓

This is the layer where the MAC address of both the sender and recipient is attached, allowing the packets to be directed to a specific NIC.

≡

Internet/Network Protocols

≡

HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol)	Defines how webpages are transferred from server to the client. The HTTP will make a request to the IP and the server responds with a webpage. There are 8 different HTTP commands including **GET**, **POST** and *CONNECT**
HTTPS (Secure Hypertext Transfer Protocol)	Connects via a different port and encrypts the data between the HTTP and the TCP protocols.

By **0llieC** (0llieC)
cheatography.com/0lliec/

Published 20th February, 2019.
Last updated 12th June, 2017.

Networks (cont)

FTP (File Transfer Protocol)	The protocol used to download and upload files. Most modern browsers have built in FTP
POP3 (Post Office Protocol 3)	Allows emails to be received from a server. The protocol connects to the email server, downloads a local copy then deletes them from the server.
SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol)	Used for sending emails
SSH (Secure Shell)	Remote-access protocol, allows secure communication between a client and server

Networks (cont)

CSMA/CA (Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Avoidance)	Is a transmission protocol that prevents packet collisions. Once it receives a packet, it checks whether the channel is clear, if it is not available it will generate a random wait time, when it will check again. If a packet is larger than the permitted size is needed to be sent, a *handshake* needs to occur first - the RTS/CTS (Request to Send/Clear to Send) protocol. This protocol only occurs when the packet is larger than the threshold.

≡

Network Security

≡

Networks (cont)

Virus	A embedded program intended to cause damage to a PC. It copies itself onto the disk and hides itself. It attempts to duplicate itself and spread to other computers.
Worm	A virus but it is contained within its own program.
Trojan	A non-self-replicating virus hidden in a downloaded file, and unleashed on execution.
Ransom Ware	A trojan/worm that encrypts data and then charges the owner to decrypt it.

By **0llieC** (0llieC)
cheatography.com/0lliec/

Published 20th February, 2019.
Last updated 12th June, 2017.

Networks (cont)

Firewall	The purpose of a firewall is to control the traffic flowing in and out of a network. It can be hardware or software based, and sometimes is a combination of both. It can be setup to block individual website addresses or specific computers.
Proxy Server	f a user requests a service from the network, it is first passed to the proxy, before the proxy server then performs the request on the behalf of the network user. If the resource is banned the request can be rejected, There is never any direct contact between user and resource, as the proxy acts as a "middle man".

Networks (cont)

WPA/WPA2	It requires you to enter a password when accessing a network. It acts as layer of protection.

≡

Network Hardware

≡

Hub	It receives a signal from a node and transmits it to all the other nodes. It is cheap and effective for small networks but for larger networks causes too many collisions
Switch	A switch has a small amount of internal memory, that allows it to generate a look-up table. When data is sent the switch finds the appropriate node. Unlike a hub, it **doesn't** send the data to all the nodes, just the receiver.

Networks (cont)

Router	A device that forwards packets from one network to another.
Gateway	The entrance and exit of networks. The main use is to connect multiple networks with different architectures

Search Engines

Overall Search engine	Crawling the web with 'spiders' TF-IDF (Term Frequency - Inverse Document Frequency) The PageRank algorithm Other factors, such as domain name, page age, mobile friendliness
Page Rank	PageRank works by counting the number and quality of links to a page to determine a rough estimate of how important the website is. The underlying assumption is that more important websites are likely to receive more links from other websites.

By **0llieC** (0llieC)
cheatography.com/0lliec/

Published 20th February, 2019.
Last updated 12th June, 2017.

Data Types

Integer	A whole number
Real/Float	Float is a term is used in various programming languages to define a variable with a fractional value. Numbers created using a float variable declaration will have digits on both sides of a decimal point. This is in contrast to the integer data type, which houses an integer or whole number.
Boolean	A value with a True or False condition - can possibly use 0/1 instead
Character	A single keyboard/unicode character
String	A set of characters, used to store text.
Date/Time	A representation of time. Can be represented in either text or number format

≡

Number Bases

Binary (Base 2)	Groups of bits in 1 and 0 (2 possible values). It uses positional numbering but with powers of 2, not 10 (denary numbers - normal)

Data Types (cont)

Hexadecimal (Base 16)	0 → 0000 → 0 1 → 0001 → 1 2 → 0010 → 2 3 → 0011 → 3 4 → 0100 → 4 5 → 0101 → 5 6 → 0110 → 6 7 → 0111 → 7 8 → 1000 → 8 9 → 1001 → 9 10 → 1010 → A 11 → 1011 → B 12 → 1100 → C 13 → 1101 → D 14 → 1110 → E 15 → 1111 → F
Denary (Base 10)	Normal number formats with the positional numbering in powers of 10.
Sign & Magnitude	A form of showing negative binary numbers where the first bit is the sign (0 = +ve, 1= -ve). Immediately you have reduced the range of values as one of the bits is reserved for the sign.

Data Types (cont)

Two's Comp	A improved way of showing negative numbers. If the first bit is a 1, it is taken as the negative version, and all following numbers are added to it. If it is a zero, it behaves just like a negative number. To change a normal +ve binary number to twos comp. ϟ **Flip the bits, and add 1** ϟ E.g. 01101010 = 106 10010101 (Flip the bits) 10010110 = +1 10010110 = -106
Fixed Point Binary	A method of showing floats. The decimal is **fixed** so there is a set amount of integer bits and a set number of fractional bits. The fractional parts follow the same positional numbering (powers of 2) but the negative versions i.e. 2^{-1}, 2^{-2}, etc.

Data Types (cont)

Floating Point Binary	A method of showing binary composed of 2 parts: the mantissa, and the exponent. The mantissa is the actual number, and the exponent is the number of units to move the floating point up or down by. 10101011 | 0011 Mantissa | Exponent $1.0101011 \times 2^{0011}$ 1.0101011×2^{3} 1.0101011 → → → 1010.1011 = 10.6875 The rule for powers: → ↓ (Decrease the power, per jump right)
Underflow	When **very** small numbers, and the boundary of what the computer can store is reached. For example, $128^{-1} \times 128^{-1}$ requires 14 bits to be stored.
Overflow	A calculation that results in a number too large to be stored. For example, any numbers past $x10^{100}$ on most calculators

Logic Gates

Half Adder	Add two single bits, produces an output S, and a carry signal C. It consists of an AND gate (C) and a XOR gate (S) in parallel.
Full Adder	Full adders are a combination of 2+ half adders. Where the C of both half adders, connects to a OR gate (C_{out}) and the sum of one connects as the input of another. Basically treating the first HA as another input.
Basic Flip-Flop	Takes a set and a reset signal. The idea is that the FF stays in one state until the change signal is sent.
D (Data) Type Flip Flop	Stores the signal it receives if it is enabled. It takes in an extra input D.