

05506017 Software Engineering

Chapter 2 : Software Engineering Principles

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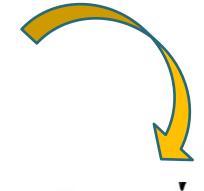
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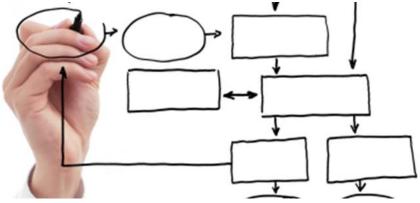
Software Principles

- It is important to know how to make a success to software development.
- SW principles deal with SE process and final product.
- 5W engineers should be equipped with appropriate methods and specific techniques that will make processes and products.

METHODS

Who, what, when, where, how, and why?







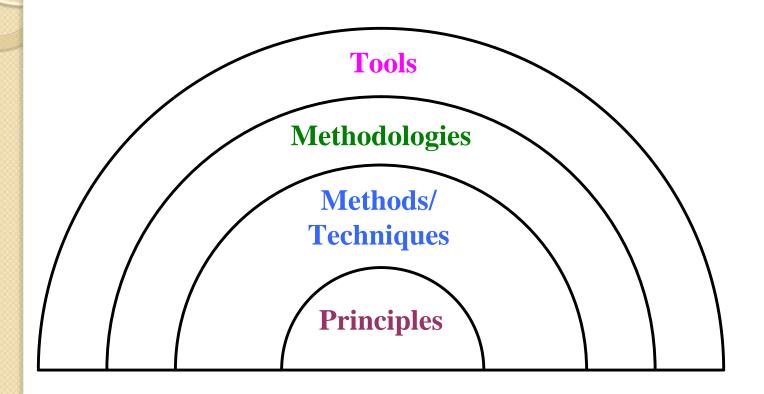


Method? Technique?

- Method is general guidelines for some activity.
- Technique is more technical and mechanical.
- Methods and techniques are formed as methodology.

Tool is developed to support the application of techniques, methods, and methodologies.

Relationship among 4 layers



** Principles are the basis of all methods/techniques, methodologies and tools. **

Important Principles

- To discuss about 7 important principles that apply throughout the SW development process as;
 - 1. Rigor and Formality
 - 2. Separation of concerns
 - 3. Modularity
 - 4. Abstraction
 - 5. Anticipation of change
 - 6. Generality
 - 7. Incrementality



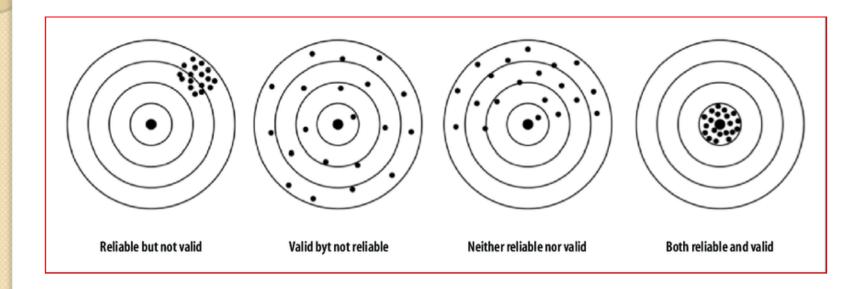
Rigor and Formality

- Within a rigorous approach, we can produce more reliable products, control their cost, and increase the confidence in their reliability.
- It enhances creativity by improving the engineer's confidence in creative results.
- Formality is a stronger requirement than rigor, it requires the SW process to be driven and evaluated by mathematical laws.

Rigor and Formality (2)

- The engineer (mathematician) must be able to understand the level of rigor and formality that should be achieved, depending on the conceptual difficulty of the task and its criticality.
- Rigor and formality are not restricted to programming.
- Influence of rigor and formality will be on the reliability and verifiability of SW product. And have also beneficial effects on maintainability, reusability, portability, understandability, and interoperability.
- Rigorous documentation of the SW process may help maintain an existing product.

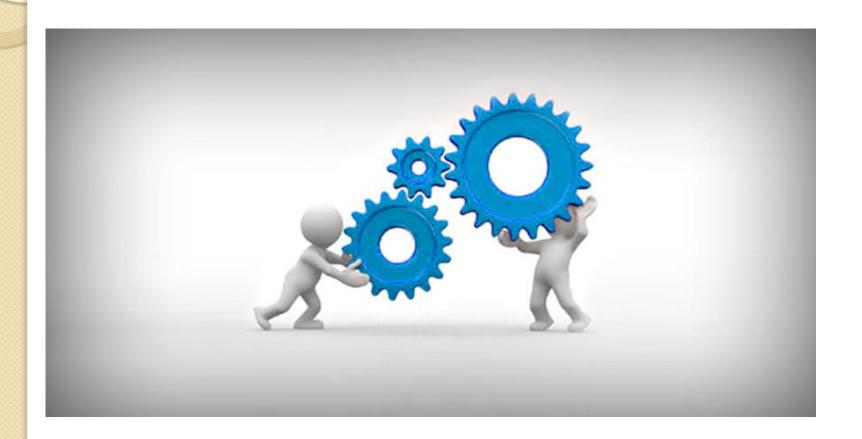
Reliability



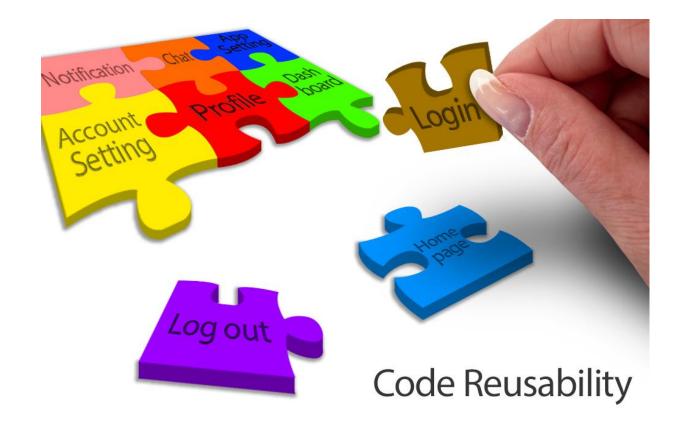
Verifiability



Maintainability



Reusability



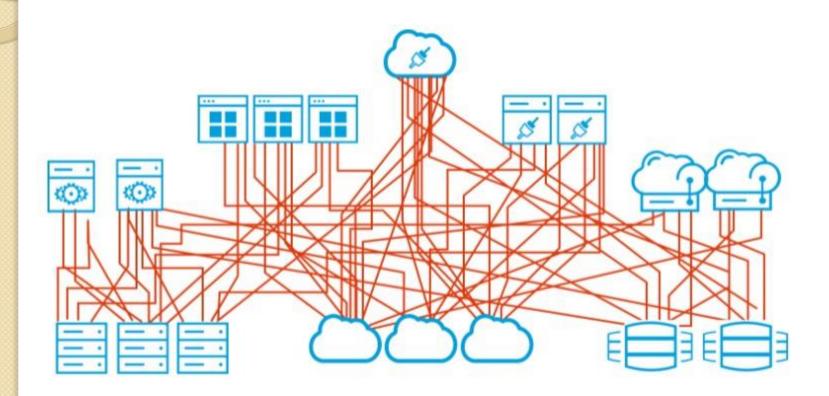
Portability



Understandability



Interoperability

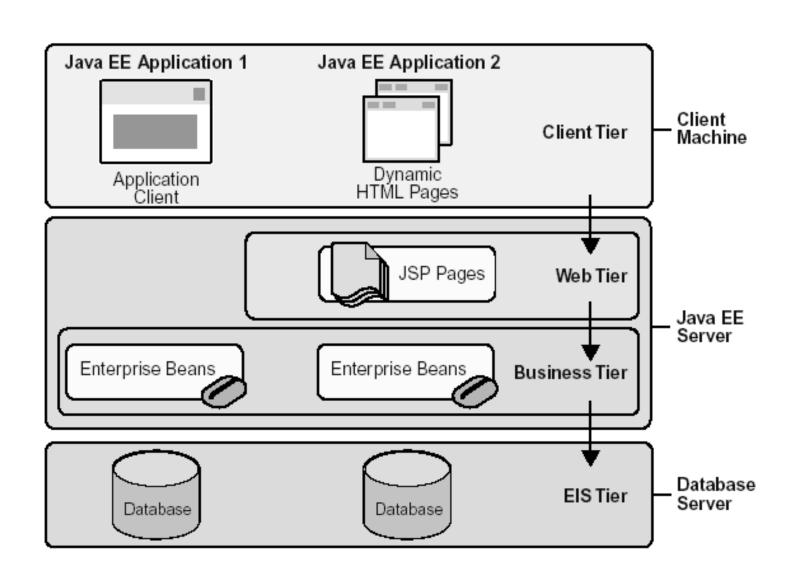


Separation of Concerns

- It is a commonsense practice that we try to follow in our everyday life to master the difficulties we encounter.
- Many decisions may concern features of the product; functions to offer, expected reliability, space and time efficiency, user interface.
- Others concern with; the development process, development environment, team organization and structure, scheduling, control procedures, design strategies, error recovery mechanism, or economic and financial matters.

Separation of Concerns (2)

- There are many ways that concerns may be separated.
 - Time: SW life cycle, the sequence of activities that should be followed in SW production.
 - Qualities: The efficiency and the correctness of a given program.
 - Views: Different views of the SW to be analyzed separately.
 - Parts: In term of size.
- It may result in separation of responsibilities in dealing with separate issues. Chapter 2: Software Engineering Principles

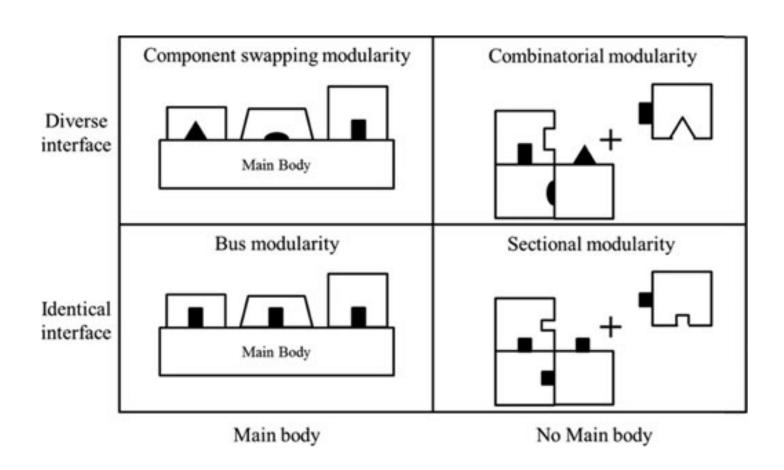


Modularity

- A complex system may be divided into simpler pieces which is called modules.
- The main benefit is that it allows the principle of separation of concerns to be applied in 2 phases;
 - Dealing with details of each module (isolation)
 - Dealing with overall characteristics of all modules and relationships to integrate them.
- The design are bottom up and top-down design.

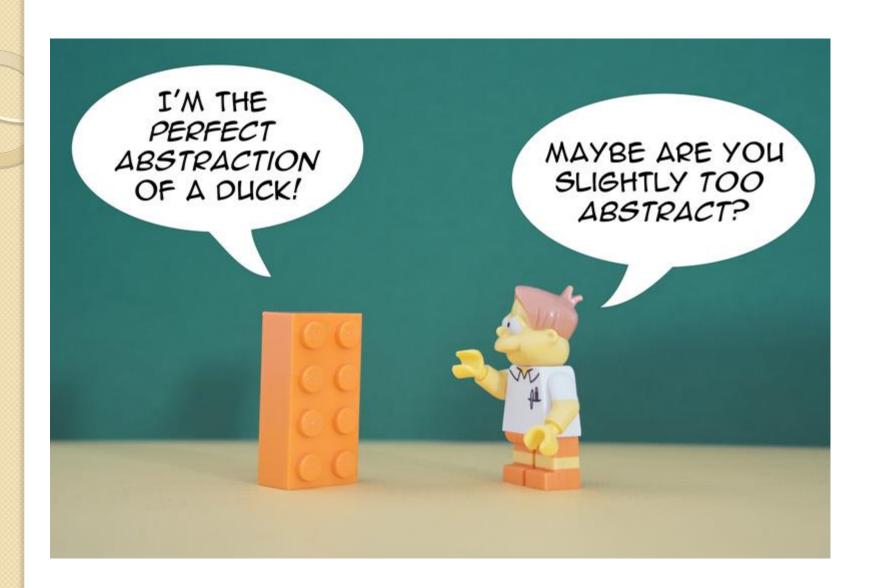
Modularity (2)

- There are three goals that modularity tries to achieve in practice;
 - Decomposability: dividing the original problem top down into subproblems and then decomposition recursively to each subproblem. (Divide and conquer; divide and isolate them first and conquer them individually)
 - Composability: starting from bottom up from elementary components and proceeding to the finished system.



Abstraction

- To identify the important aspects of a phenomenon and ignore the details which is a special case of separation of concerns. (Separate important aspects with unimportant details.)
- Ex. Of watch, the abstraction is a box that can be opened to replace the battery.
- For the cost estimation, consists of identifying some key factors of new system and extrapolating from the cost profiles of previous similar systems.



Anticipation of Change

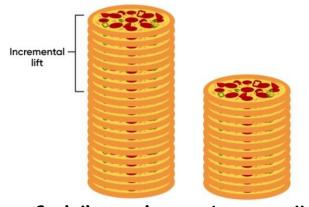


- The changes covers; the need for repairing the SW as;
 - Eliminating errors that were not detected before releasing the application.
 - The need for supporting evolution of the application as new requirements arise, or old requirements have been changed. So that the maintainability as a major SW quality.
- It maybe the one principle that distinguishes SW the most from other types of industrial productions.
- It is a principle that we can use to achieve evolvability.
- Reusability strongly affected by anticipation of change.

Generality

- Generalized solution may be more costly, in terms of speed of execution, memory requirements or development time than the specialized solution that is tailored to the original problem.
- It is a fundamental principle if the SWEng goal is to develop general tools or general packages for the market which will provide standard solution to common problems are increasingly available.





- It consists of identifying useful "early subsets" of the application that may be developed and delivered to customers, to get "early feedback".
 (Because there is no way of getting all the requirements right before an application is developed.)
- Evolutionary SW development requires special care in the management of documents, programs, test data, and etc.
- Each meaningful increment step must be recorded, documentation must be easily retrieved, changes must be applied in the controlled way... so on...