Software Engineering Fundamentals

Software Development Concepts, Phases and Practices



SoftUni TeamTechnical Trainers







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Have a Question?





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Software Development Lifecycle (SDLC)

Requirements → Design → Code → Test → Deploy

Coding != Software Engineering



- Inexperienced developers consider "coding == development"
- Software engineering is not just coding!
 - In most projects coding is only 20%-30% of the project activities!
 - The software development process involves many more
 - The important decisions about the software are taken during the requirements analysis and software design phases
 - QA, testing, integration, reviews, deployment, documentation, and management are often disparaged
- Software engineering is about building software professionally, through a manageable and predictable process

Software Engineering



- Software engineering is an engineering discipline aimed to provide knowledge, processes, practices, and tools for
 - Defining software requirements
 - Creating software design
 - Software construction
 - Software testing and QA
 - Software deployment
 - Software maintenance tasks
 - Managing the development process

Software Development Lifecycle (SDLC)



- The Software Development Lifecycle (SDLC)
 - Analyzing and defining software requirements
 - Creating software architecture and design
 - Software construction
 - Software testing and QA
 - Software deployment
 - Software maintenance
- Methodologies manage the development process





Software Requirements Analysis

Requirements, User Stories, Prototypes, Specification

Software Requirements



- Software requirements describe the functionality of the software
 - Answer the question "what shall it do?", not "how shall it do it?"
 - Define constraints on the system
- Two kinds of requirements
 - Functional requirements
 - Product functions, enabling users to achieve their tasks
 - Non-functional requirements
 - Reliability, efficiency, usability, maintainability, etc.

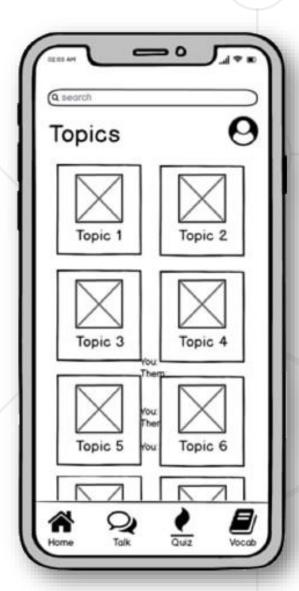
Requirements Analysis



- Requirements analysis starts from an idea about the system
 - Customers often have a broad idea but may lack specifics
 - Requirements come roughly → adjusted during the development
 - Requirements change constantly!
- Analysis produces some requirements documentation
 - User stories / UI prototype / Software Requirements
 Specification (SRS) / informal system description
 - Should be clear, concise and unambiguous

UI Prototype – Example











SRS – Example



Software Requirements Specification v1.2

	1.0	08/14/03	M. Miranda/S. Roach	Final review changes before client's approval
	1.1	08/15/03	M.Miranda/S.Roach	Corrections after validation by clients
ı	1.2		M. Miranda/S. Roach	Corrections by class, administrator functions

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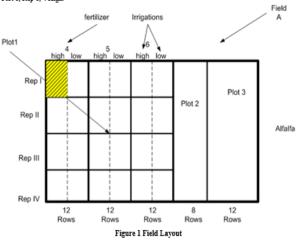
Software Requirements Specification v1.2

controls and cotton research. Data stored by the CDMS will be collected in the field by growers and researchers, taken from satellite images, derived from weather reports, and collected in the laboratory. Since the growers, researchers, and laboratory technicians may be geographically dispersed, the CDMS must allow users to enter and receive data remotely. Therefore, an internet-based system is envisioned.

The hierarchy of the data can be described in the following manner:

- Projects can have one-to-many seasons.
- Seasons can have one-to-many treatments.
- Treatments can have one-to-many fields.
- Field can have one-to-many plots.
- Plots can have one-to-many reps.
- Reps have many plants.

• Keps have many plants.
Figure 1 below is an example of the layout of a cotton field. The field is represented by the large rectangle. This field contains three plots. Plot 1 has 4 reps, each with 2 treatments. The treatments are irrigation fertilizer. The numbers 4, 5, and 6 represent the number of irrigations. The high and low represent the amount of fertilizer used. The highlighted square would be referenced as "Field A, Plot 1, Rep 1, 4 High."



2.1 Product Perspective

CDMS will be a tool to manage information related to the prediction and analysis of cotton growth.

The main uses of the system include the following.

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Software Requirements Specification v1.2

- The system will act as a repository of insect data for cotton, including insect images, classifications, features, and population histories.
- . The system will act as a repository for cotton growth data in the Upper Rio Grande Valley.
- . The system will provide data to a DSS for advising growers.
- The system will provide electronic access to data for growers and researchers.

The CDMS will need to interact with both new and existing systems. Software tools such as GIS will provide access to geographic and satellite imaging data. The COTMAN software will generate Cotton yield predictions. Weather data will be obtained from the National Weather Service web site or university weather stations located throughout the state (http://www.weather.nmsu.edu). Insect classification and population data will be obtained from the image analysis software currently under development at NMSU.

2.2 Product Features

The use case diagram shown in Figure 2 describes the main features of the CDMS. Briefly, the system must interact with external programs such as COTMAN, and it must store data and provide query access to the data.

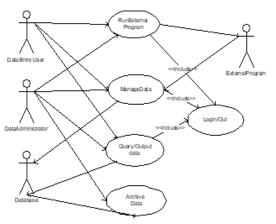


Figure 2 Use Case Diagram

2.2.1 Use Cases

Use cases are descriptions of interactions that users have with the system. They define the boundaries of the system as well as the sequence of operations needed to accomplish a task. The use case description contains descriptions of actors and use cases. An actor is any entity outside of the system

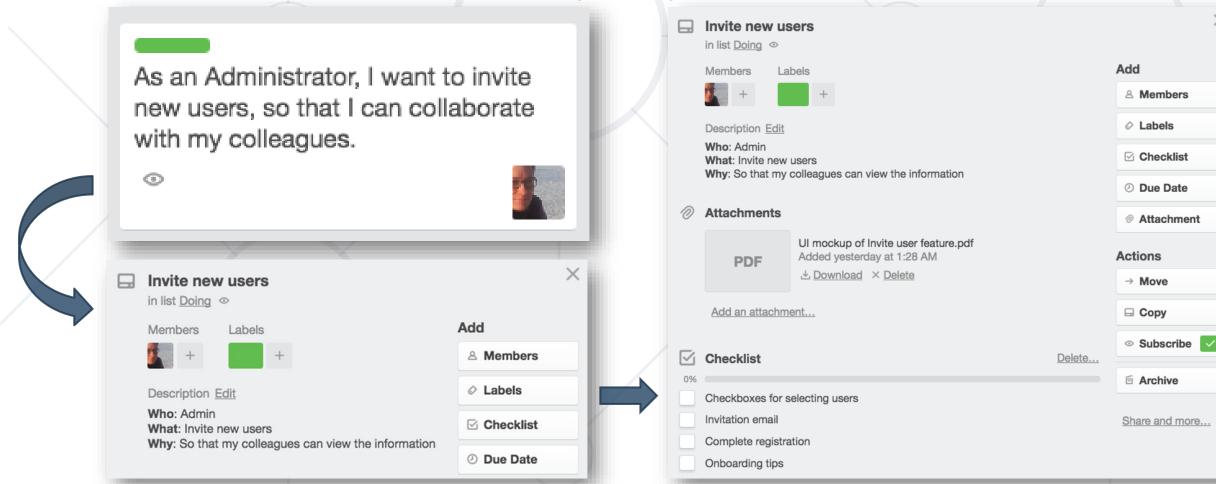
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User Story – Example



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- A story starts from a simple idea (1-2 sentences)
- As the team discusses the story, they add more details



Software Requirements Change Over Time



- It is always hard to describe and document the requirements in a comprehensive way
 - Good requirements save time and money, but are hard to reach
- Requirements always change during the project!
 - Good requirements reduce the changes
 - UI prototypes significantly reduce changes
 - Agile methodologies are flexible to changes
 - Use user story tracking tools to handle changing requirements



Live Demo

User Stories, UI Prototypes and SRS



Software Architecture and Design

Software Architecture and Software Design



- Software architecture and design
 - Technical descriptions (e.g., diagrams) about how the system implements the requirements
- The software (system) architecture describes the subsystems,
 their responsibilities and interactions
 - High-level infrastructure of a software system
 - Good software architecture == easier maintenance and scalability

Software Architecture and Software Design



- The software design describes the system design at a lower-level
 - Functions of individual modules, classes, etc.
- Design patterns in software design
 - Proven solutions to recurring problems
 - Fundamental in software engineering

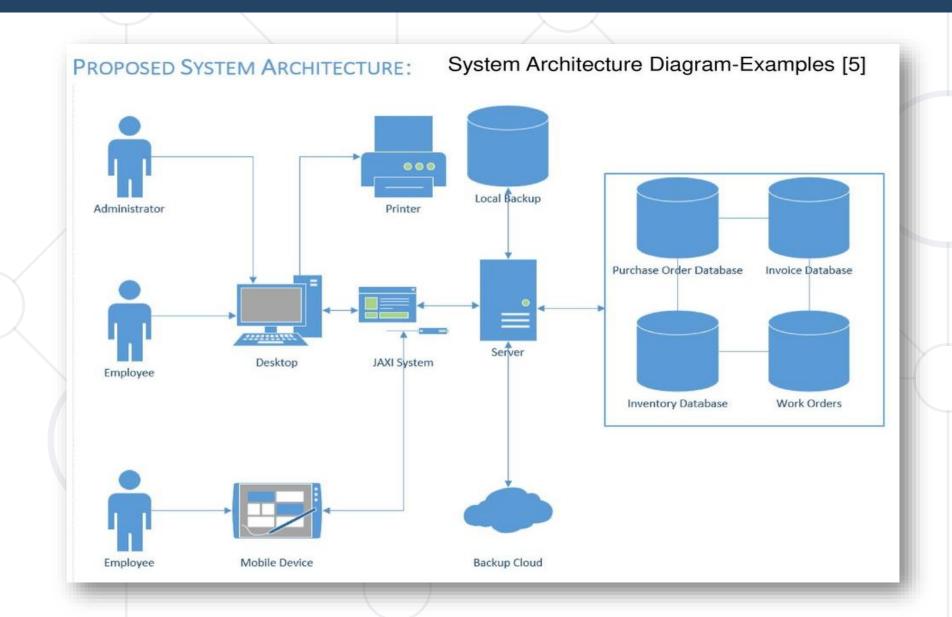
System Architecture



- The system architecture is a conceptual model, describing
 - How the system will be decomposed into modules (subsystems)
 - Responsibilities of each module
 - Interaction between the modules
 - Platforms and technologies, communication protocols
- Can be formal or informal (typically)
 - Consists mostly of diagrams / blueprints

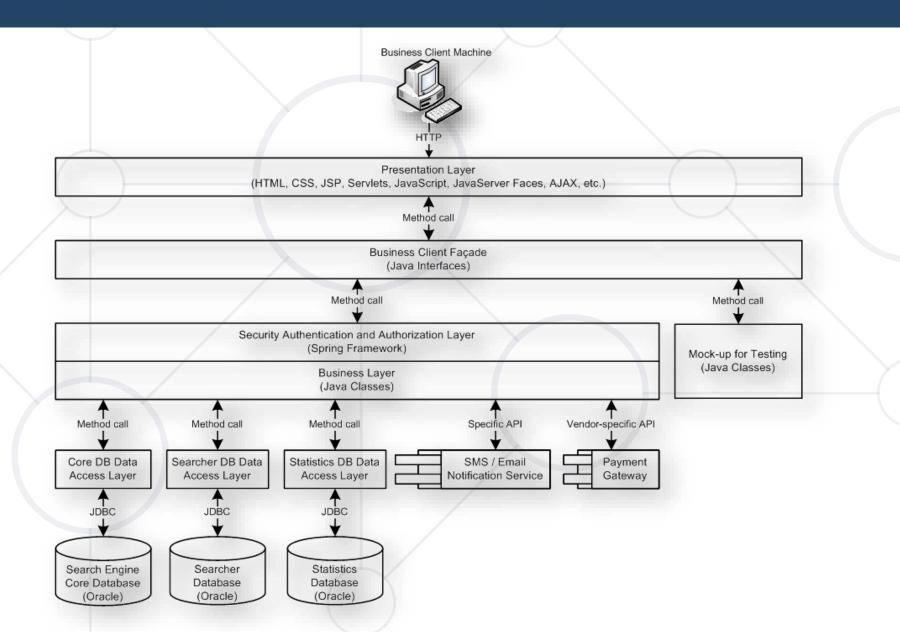
System Architecture Diagram





Software Architecture Diagram





Software Design



Detailed design

- Describes the internal module structure
- Subcomponents, interfaces, process design, data design

Object-oriented design

 Describes the classes, their responsibilities, relationships, dependencies, and interactions (usually in UML)

Internal class design

Methods, responsibilities, algorithms and interactions

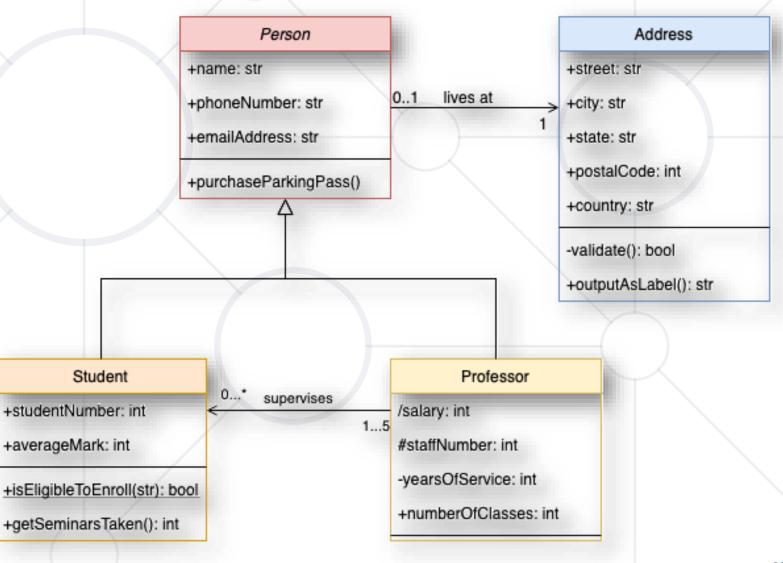
UML Class Diagram



UML Class diagrams

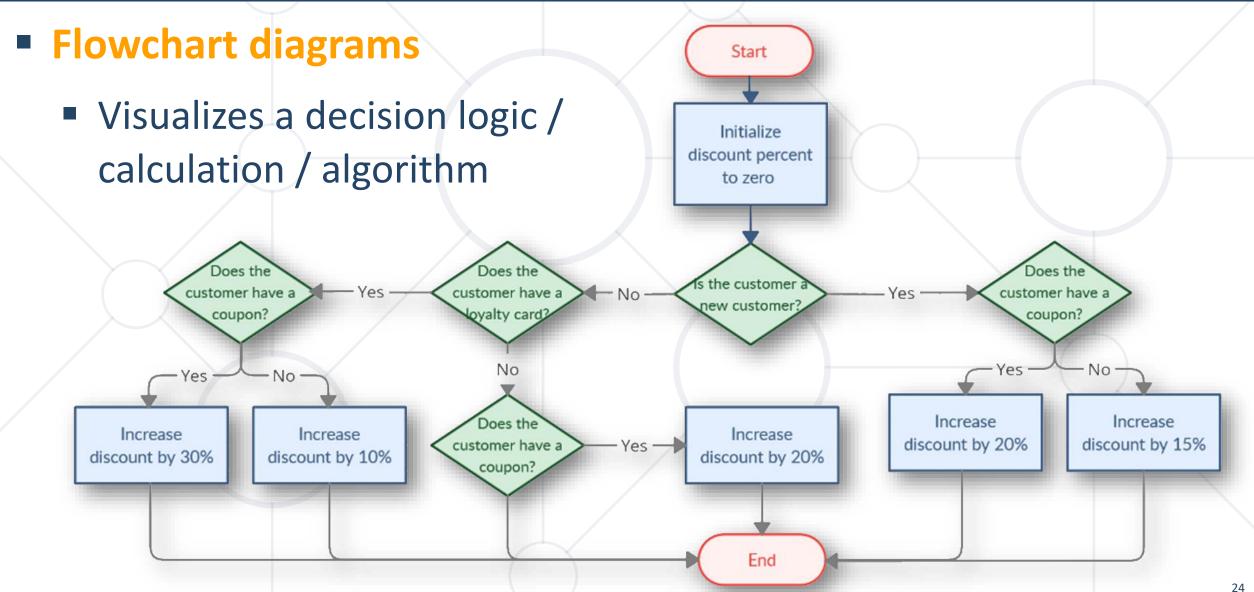
UML == UnifiedModeling Language

 Visualize classes and their relationships



Flowchart Diagram





Software Design Document (SDD)



- The Software Design Document (SDD)
 - Formal description of the architecture and design of the system
- Essential for software development process
 - Makes communication between collaborators easier
 - Often used for future references
 - Ensures the entire team has a clear understanding of the system's design
 - Beneficial when onboarding new team members

Software Design Document (SDD)



- What's typically inside?
 - Architectural design
 - Modules and interactions (diagram)
 - For each module
 - Process design (diagrams)
 - Data design (E/R diagram)
 - Object-oriented design (class diagram)



Live Demo

Software Design Document



Software Construction

Implementation, Unit Testing, Debugging, Integration

Software Construction



- During the construction phase developers build the software
 - Sometimes it is called "implementation phase"
- Software construction includes
 - Method design
 - Writing the source code
 - Testing and debugging
 - Writing the unit tests
 - Code reviews and inspections
 - Integration of classes / modules

Writing the Code



Coding

- The process of writing the programming code (the source code),
 running and debugging it
- The code adheres to established architecture and design
- Developers perform method design as part of coding
- The source code is the output of the software construction process
 - Written by developers
 - Can include tests (unit, integration, others)

Testing the Code



Testing

- The process of checking whether the developed software conforms to the requirements
- Aims to identify defects (bugs)
- System testing is done by the QA engineers
 - Unit / integration testing is done by developers
- Developers test the code after writing it
 - Run it at least once to see the results
 - Unit testing / integration testing work better
 - Automated tests are repeatable, executed many times

Debugging



- Debugging
 - Finding the source of an already identified bug and fixing it
 - Performed by developers (constantly)
- Steps in debugging
 - Find the defect in the code
 - Identify the source of the problem
 - Identify the exact place in the code causing it
 - Fix the defect (modify the source code)
 - Test to check if the fix is working correctly
 - Write a unit test for the defect to avoid it reoccurring further

Software Verification Activities



- Inspections: requirements / design / code inspections
 - Aim to find flaws early, e.g., in the requirements
 - Performed by an experienced dev / QA engineer
- Code reviews: developer reviews the code
 - Find flaws / bugs / improve quality
- Static analysis: software tools scan the source code for problems
 - Security, code quality, potential bugs, etc.
- Dynamic analysis: tools asses runtime code to find flaws
 - Memory issues, bad performance, arithmetic overflows, etc.

Code Reviews



Code reviews

- Assessments of the source code and other assets
- Developer A reviews the code written by Developer B
- Goals
 - Identify bugs
 - Increase code quality
 - Apply best practices
 - Help developers learn the source code and from other developers

Code Reviews



- Code reviews can be
 - Formal or informal
 - Live or offline
- Code review tools are used to perform code reviews online
 - Example: GitHub Pull Requests
 - Code under review gets improvement suggestions and comments
 - Code under review can finally be rejected or approved

Software Integration



- Software integration
 - Combining multiple software systems to work together seamlessly and efficiently
 - Enabling data exchange between them
 - Enhances overall productivity
 - Reduces redundancy
 - Improves efficiency
 - Compile, run and deploy separate modules as a single system
 - Test to identify defects (integration testing)

Software Integration Strategies



Big bang

 All or almost all modules are integrated together at the same time

Top-down

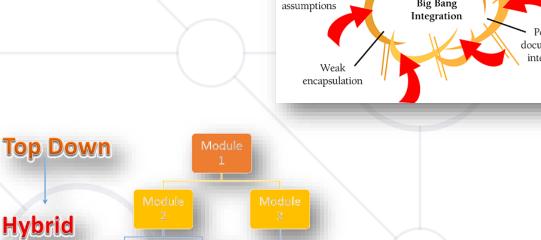
Integration of the higher-level layers first

Bottom-up

- Lower layers first
- Continuous integration (CI)
 - Integrate after each commit in the source control system

Hybrid

Bottom Up



Module

Module

handling



Continuous Integration (CI)

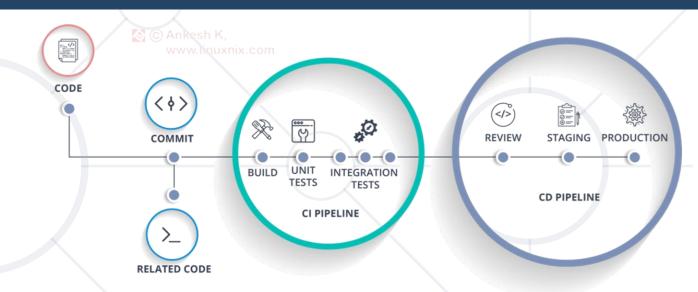


- Continuous integration (CI)
 - Integrating the code from different developers frequently (several times a day)
 - Automated building and testing the software
 - Typically, at Git push in a certain branch
 - Finding integration problems and bugs early
 - Continuously maintain software quality
- Cl is implemented by a Cl system like Jenkins, GitHub Actions,
 TeamCity, Azure Pipelines

CI/CD Pipeline



- CI/CD pipeline
 - Continuously integrate
 and release new features
- Continuous integration (CI)
 - Write code, test and integrate it in the product
- Continuous delivery (CD)
 - Continuously release new features
- Often QA engineers maintain and monitor the CI/CD pipeline





Software Quality Assurance (QA)

Software Quality, Testing, QA Process

Software Quality Assurance (QA)



- What is "software quality assurance" (SQA)?
 - Software quality assurance aims to
 - Minimize software defects
 - Ensure it behaves as expected
 - Defects are reported and tracked through a bug tracking system
 - Performed by the Quality Assurance engineers (QA engineers)
- Continuous integration and delivery (CI/CD pipeline)

Quality Assurance (QA) Engineers



- QA engineers ensure the software quality
- Plan and execute testing activities
 - Test the software, its functionality, UX, etc.
 - Create test plans, design test cases, execute tests
 - Develop and execute test automation scripts
- Report and track bugs and their lifecycle
 - Perform regression testing when bugs are resolved
- Track the development process and its quality
 - Review the requirements, design and code
 - Build and monitor CI/CD pipeline, track QA metrics

Bugs and Bug Tracking



- Defects (bugs) in software are problems in the source code / requirements / design, which cause incorrect behavior
- Once found (typically by the QA), bugs are tracked in a bug trackers / issue tracking software
 - Examples: Jira, GitHub Issues
- Bugs have a lifecycle
 - new → assigned / rejected → fixed → closed / reopened

Test Plan, Test Scenarios and Test Cases



Test plan

 A guiding document outlining the testing approach, environments, schedule, and acceptance criteria to ensure software meets quality requirements

Test Scenarios

 High-level descriptions/stories representing the functionality or feature to be tested in the software

Test Cases

 Detailed, step-by-step instructions designed to validate specific conditions or functions of the software based on the associated test scenarios

Manual and Automation Testing



- Most of the QA work is software testing
 - Manual testing
 - Fill forms
 - Click
 - Check the results
 - Automated testing
 - QA automation
 - Test cases as code



Deployment and Maintenance

Deployment Environments, Maintenance Process

Software Deployment



- What is software deployment?
 - Getting software out of the hands of the developers into the hands of the users
 - Compile, package, install, configure and run the software into the customer environment / ship the app to the customer
 - Web app → deploy the new version to the Web servers
 - Mobile app → publish a new version to app stores
 - Desktop app → release a new version installer to the customers
- Continuous deployment (CD)
 - Automatically deploy the software after each commit → ensure the changes are deployable

Deployment Environments



- Dev environment
 - Used by developers
 - No client data

- Test environment
 - Used by QA engineers
 - No client data

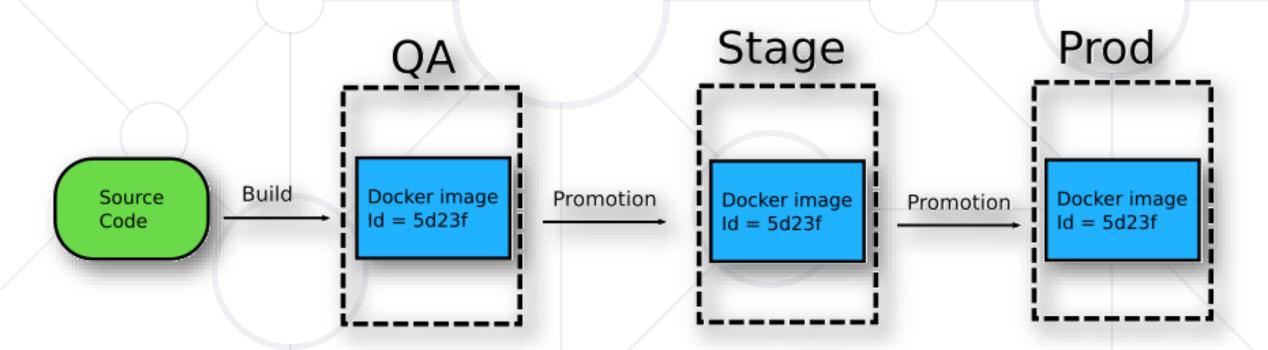
- Staging environment
 - Used by QA engineers and/or clients for UAT
 - Limited production data

- Production environment
 - Used by clients
 - Full Production data

Container-Based Deployment Environments



 Containers and clouds simplify creating, configuring and running the required environments



Software Maintenance



- What is software maintenance?
 - The process of changing a system after it has been released
- Reasons for maintenance changes
 - Fixing bugs and patching security vulnerabilities
 - Changing business needs: new features and requirements
 - Adapting to new environments: hardware / platforms / software
- Typical change process
 - Analysis → requirements → issue backlog → prioritization
 - For each fix: design / re-engineering \rightarrow code \rightarrow QA \rightarrow deploy

Software Documentation



- Documentation makes software maintainable
 - Allow new people to join the development team over the time
- Best practices in software documentation
 - Visualize the development process (use a project board)
 - Written requirements (in a requirements tracking system)
 - Design and architecture documents (e.g., project Wiki)
 - Code documentation (comments and built-in docs in the code)
 - Test management system and CI system (with a dashboard)
 - User documentation, installation guide, quick start guide, etc.

Summary



- Software engineering provides knowledge, processes, practices and tools for all the phases in software development lifecycle (SDLC)
- Software requirements describe the functionalities of the software
- Software design and architecture describe system structure –
 modules and interactions
- Software constructions involves coding, debugging, unit testing, code reviews and integration (including CI)
- The QA engineering process ensures the software works as intended, mostly through testing (manual and automated)
- Software deployment ships the software to customers and goes through different deployment environments





Questions?

















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