

Software Engineering Concepts:
Assignment-1 (Section-B)

Aim:

To study Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC) Models

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3. Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC) Models:

3.1 Waterfall Model

Winston Royce introduced the Waterfall Model in 1970. This model has five phases: Requirements analysis and specification, design, implementation, and unit testing, integration and system testing, and operation and maintenance. The steps always follow in this order and do not overlap. The developer must complete every phase before the next phase begins. This model is named "Waterfall Model", because its diagrammatic representation resembles a cascade of waterfalls.

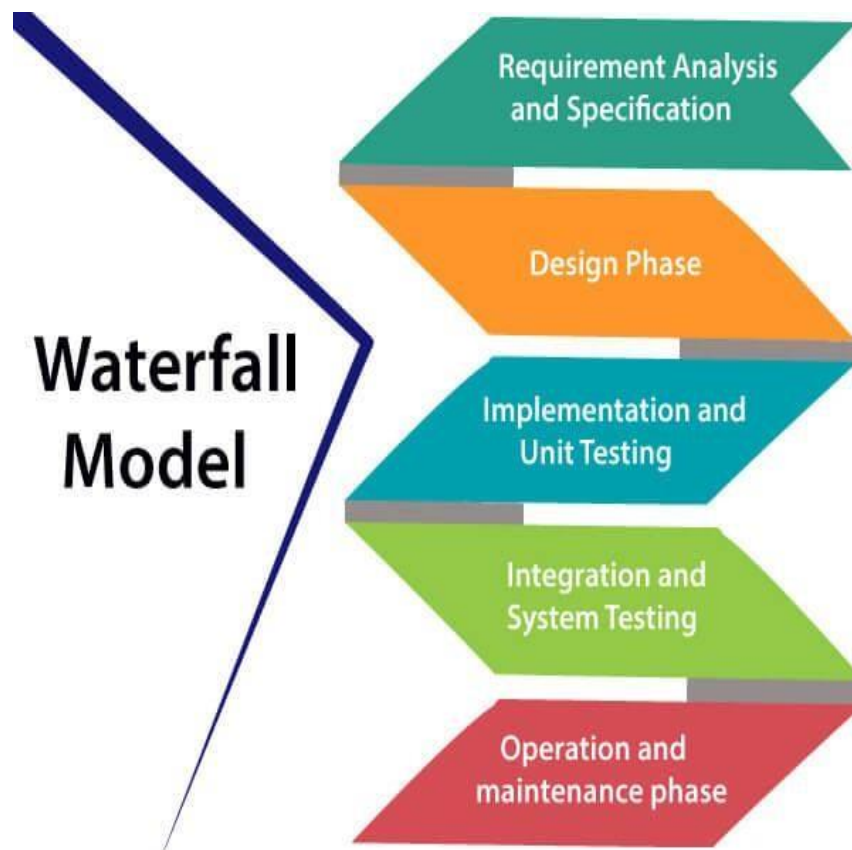


Fig 3.1.1: Waterfall Model

Phases of Waterfall Model

1. **Requirements analysis and specification phase:** The aim of this phase is to understand the exact requirements of the customer and to document them properly. Both the customer and the software developer work together so as to document all the functions, performance, and interfacing requirement of the software. It describes the "what" of the system to be produced and not "how." In this phase, a large document called Software Requirement Specification (SRS) document is created which contained a detailed description of what the system will do in the common language.

2. **Design Phase:** This phase aims to transform the requirements gathered in the SRS into a suitable form which permits further coding in a programming language. It defines the overall software architecture together with high level and detailed design. All this work is documented as a Software Design Document (SDD).
3. **Implementation and unit testing:** During this phase, design is implemented. If the SDD is complete, the implementation or coding phase proceeds smoothly, because all the information needed by software developers is contained in the SDD. During testing, the code is thoroughly examined and modified. Small modules are tested in isolation initially. After that these modules are tested by writing some overhead code to check the interaction between these modules and the flow of intermediate output.
4. **Integration and System Testing:** This phase is highly crucial as the quality of the end product is determined by the effectiveness of the testing carried out. The better output will lead to satisfied customers, lower maintenance costs, and accurate results. Unit testing determines the efficiency of individual modules. However, in this phase, the modules are tested for their interactions with each other and with the system.
5. **Operation and maintenance phase:** Maintenance is the task performed by every user once the software has been delivered to the customer, installed, and operational.

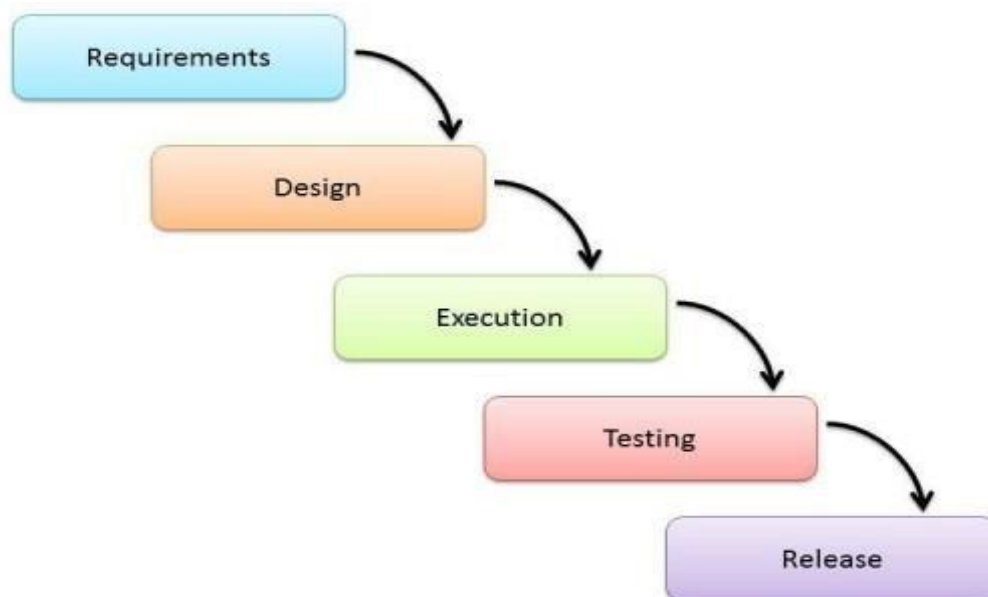


Fig 3.1.2: Phase Diagram

Purpose:

Some Circumstances where the use of the Waterfall model is most suited are:

- When the requirements are constant and not changed regularly.
- A project is short
- The situation is calm

- Where the tools and technology used is consistent and is not changing
- When resources are well prepared and are available to use.

Advantages of Waterfall model:

- This model is simple to implement also the number of resources that are required for it is minimal.
- The requirements are simple and explicitly declared; they remain unchanged during the entire project development.
- The start and end points for each phase is fixed, which makes it easy to cover progress.
- The release date for the complete product, as well as its final cost, can be determined before development.
- It gives easy to control and clarity for the customer due to a strict reporting system.

Disadvantages of Waterfall model:

- In this model, the risk factor is higher, so this model is not suitable for more significant and complex projects.
- This model cannot accept the changes in requirements during development.
- It becomes tough to go back to the phase. For example, if the application has now shifted to the coding phase, and there is a change in requirement, It becomes tough to go back and change it.
- Since the testing done at a later stage, it does not allow identifying the challenges and risks in the earlier phase, so the risk reduction strategy is difficult to prepare.

Real Time Example:

- Use to develop enterprise applications like Customer Relationship Management (CRM) systems
- Human Resource Management Systems (HRMS)
- Supply Chain Management Systems
- Inventory Management Systems
- Point of Sales (POS) systems for Retail chains
- Development of Department Of Defence (DOD)
- military and aircraft programs followed Waterfall model in many organizations

3.2 Rapid Application Development

RAD model is Rapid Application Development model. It is a type of incremental model. In RAD model the components or functions are developed in parallel as if they were mini projects. The developments are time boxed, delivered and then assembled into a working prototype.

This can quickly give the customer something to see and use and to provide feedback regarding the delivery and their requirements.

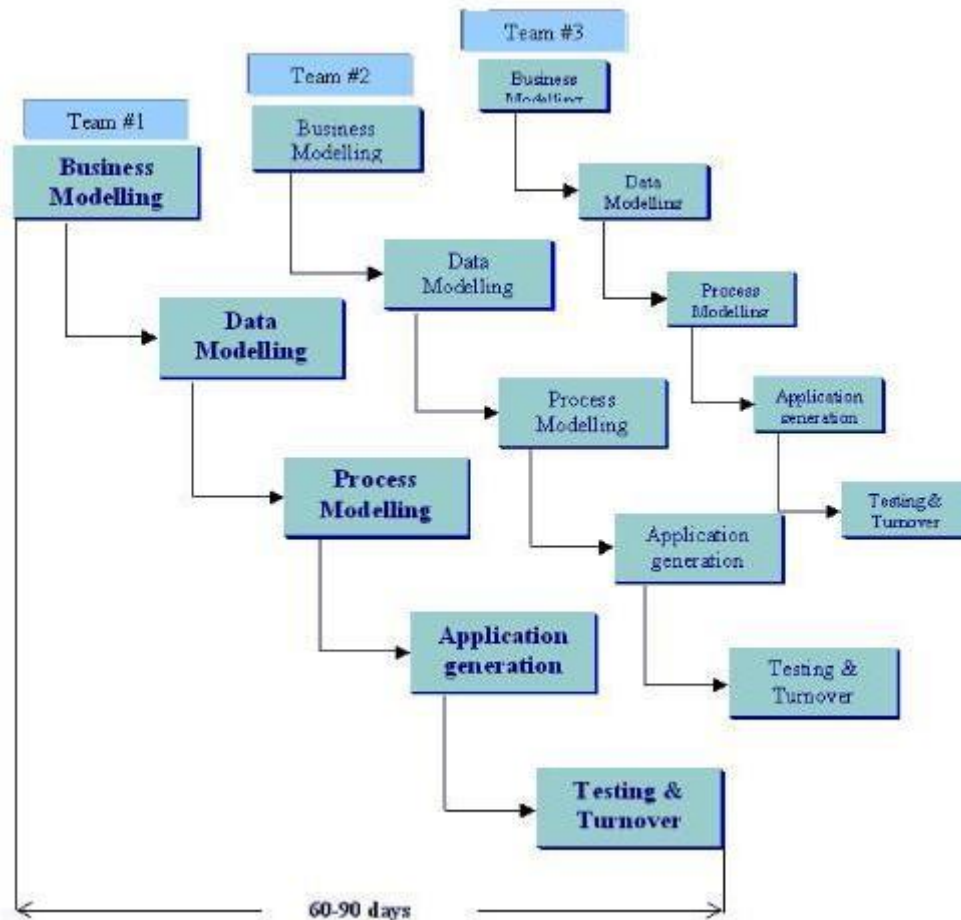


Fig 3.2.1: RAD Model

Phases in the rapid application development (RAD) model:

1. **Business modeling:** The information flow is identified between various business functions.
2. **Data modeling:** Information gathered from business modeling is used to define data objects that are needed for the business.
3. **Process modeling:** Data objects defined in data modeling are converted to achieve the business information flow to achieve some specific business objective. Description are identified and created for CRUD of data objects.
4. **Application generation:** Automated tools are used to convert process models into code and the actual system.
5. **Testing and turnover:** Test new components and all the interfaces.

Purpose:

- RAD should be used when there is a need to create a system that can be modularized in 2-3 months of time.

- It should be used if there's high availability of designers for modeling and the budget is high enough to afford their cost along with the cost of automated code generating tools.
- RAD SDLC model should be chosen only if resources with high business knowledge are available and there is a need to produce the system in a short span of time (2-3 months).

Advantages of the RAD model:

- Reduced development time.
- Increases reusability of components
- Quick initial reviews occur
- Encourages customer feedback
- Integration from very beginning solves a lot of integration issues.

Disadvantages of RAD model:

- Depends on strong team and individual performances for identifying business requirements.
- Only system that can be modularized can be built using RAD
- Requires highly skilled developers/designers.
- High dependency on modeling skills
- Inapplicable to cheaper projects as cost of modeling and automated code generation is very high.

Real Time Example:

- General Goals - Bonus Subsystem
- Current System - Vehicle Subsystem
- Proposed System - VIP Subsystem
 - User Interface and Human Factors - Maintenance Subsystem
 - Documentation - Travel Subsystem
 - Hardware Consideration - Logbook Subsystem
 - Performance Characteristics - Bonus Subsystem
 - Screen Mock up - Maintenance Subsystem
 - Navigational Path for the Web Application - Bonus Subsystem
 - Dynamic Models - Logbook Subsystem

3.3 Incremental Model

In incremental model the whole requirement is divided into various builds. Multiple development cycles take place here, making the life cycle a “multi-waterfall” cycle. Cycles are divided up into smaller, more easily managed modules. Incremental model is a type of software development model like V-model, Agile model etc.

In this model, each module passes through the requirements, design, implementation and testing phases. A working version of software is produced during the first module, so you have working software early on during the software life cycle. Each subsequent release of the module adds function to the previous release. The process continues till the complete system is achieved.

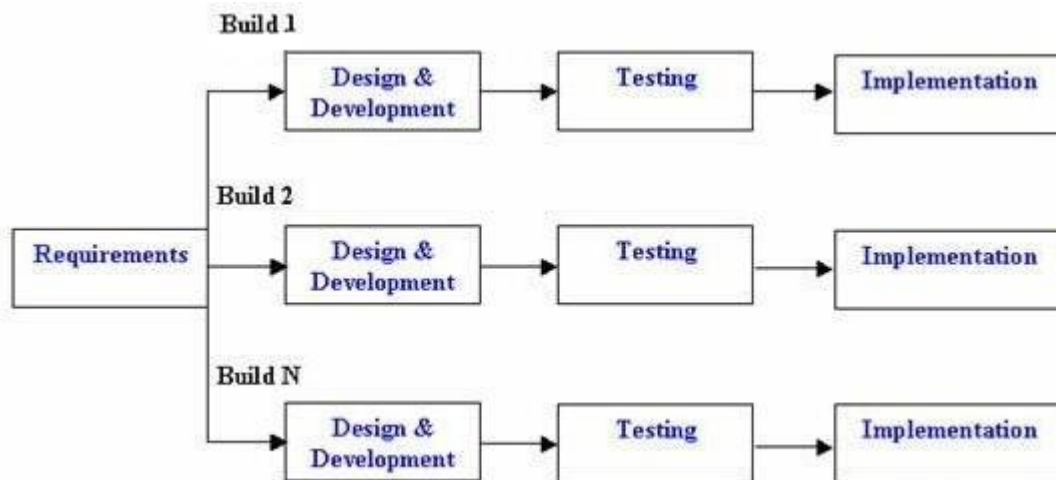


Fig 3.3.1: Incremental Model.

Purpose:

- This model can be used when the requirements of the complete system are clearly defined and understood.
- Major requirements must be defined; however, some details can evolve with time.
- There is a need to get a product to the market early.
- A new technology is being used
- Resources with needed skill set are not available
- There are some high risk features and goals.

Advantages of Incremental model:

- Generates working software quickly and early during the software life cycle.
- This model is more flexible – less costly to change scope and requirements.
- It is easier to test and debug during a smaller iteration.
- In this model customer can respond to each built.
- Lowers initial delivery cost.
- Easier to manage risk because risky pieces are identified and handled during it'd iteration.

Disadvantages of Incremental model:

- Needs good planning and design.

- Needs a clear and complete definition of the whole system before it can be broken down and built incrementally.
- Total cost is higher than waterfall.

Real Time Example:

- This model can be used when the requirements of the complete system are clearly defined and understood.
- Major requirements must be defined; however, some details can evolve with time.
- There is a need to get a product to the market early.
- A new technology is being used.
- Resources with needed skill set are not available.
- There are some high-risk features and goals.

3.4 Spiral Model

The spiral model, initially proposed by Boehm, is an evolutionary software process model that couples the iterative feature of prototyping with the controlled and systematic aspects of the linear sequential model. It implements the potential for rapid development of new versions of the software. Using the spiral model, the software is developed in a series of incremental releases. During the early iterations, the additional release may be a paper model or prototype. During later iterations, more and more complete versions of the engineered system are produced.

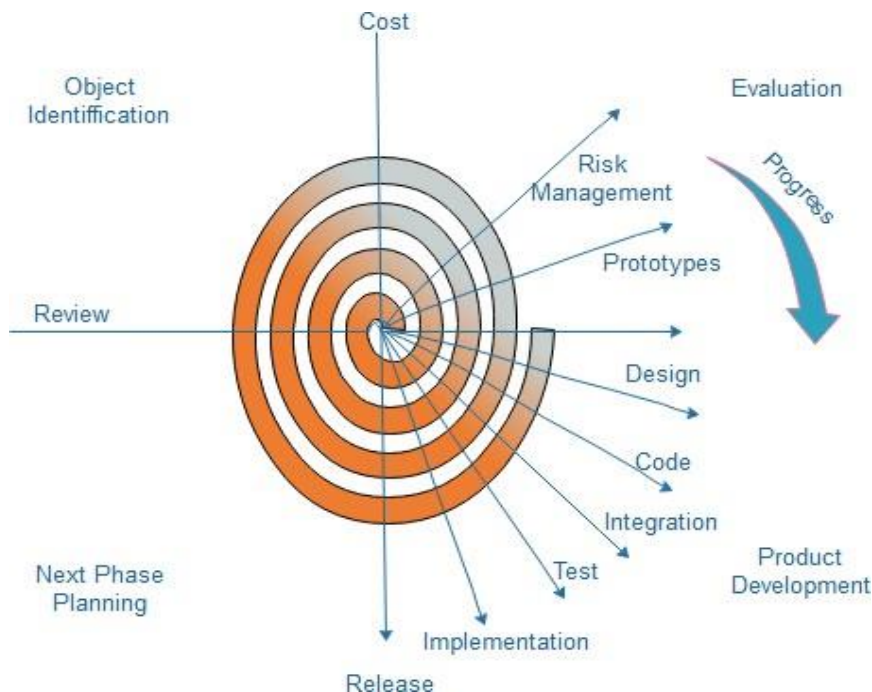


Fig 3.4.1: Spiral Model

Phases in the Spiral Model:

Each cycle in the spiral is divided into four parts:

- **Objective setting:** Each cycle in the spiral starts with the identification of purpose for that cycle, the various alternatives that are possible for achieving the targets, and the constraints that exists.
- **Risk Assessment and reduction:** The next phase in the cycle is to calculate these various alternatives based on the goals and constraints. The focus of evaluation in this stage is located on the risk perception for the project.
- **Development and validation:** The next phase is to develop strategies that resolve uncertainties and risks. This process may include activities such as benchmarking, simulation, and prototyping.
- **Planning:** Finally, the next step is planned. The project is reviewed, and a choice made whether to continue with a further period of the spiral. If it is determined to keep, plans are drawn up for the next step of the project.

The development phase depends on the remaining risks. For example, if performance or user-interface risks are treated more essential than the program development risks, the next phase may be an evolutionary development that includes developing a more detailed prototype for solving the risks.

The risk-driven feature of the spiral model allows it to accommodate any mixture of a specification-oriented, prototype-oriented, simulation-oriented, or another type of approach. An essential element of the model is that each period of the spiral is completed by a review that includes all the products developed during that cycle, including plans for the next cycle. The spiral model works for development as well as enhancement projects.

Purpose:

- When deliverance is required to be frequent.
- When the project is large
- When requirements are unclear and complex
- When changes may require at any time
- Large and high budget projects

Advantages of Spiral Model:

- High amount of risk analysis
- Useful for large and mission-critical projects.

Disadvantages of Spiral Model:

- Can be a costly model to use.

- Risk analysis needed highly particular expertise
- Doesn't work well for smaller projects.

Real Time Example:

- Working on the missiles or satellites is the real time example of a spiral model.
- The spiral model uses the approach of Prototyping Model by building a prototype at the start of each phase as a risk handling technique.
- Gantt chart software – GanttPRO a tool for simple task handling.
- Evolution of Microsoft Windows operating system.

3.5 Agile Model

Agile model believes that every project needs to be handled differently and the existing methods need to be tailored to best suit the project requirements. In Agile, the tasks are divided to time boxes (small time frames) to deliver specific features for a release.

Iterative approach is taken and working software build is delivered after each iteration. Each build is incremental in terms of features; the final build holds all the features required by the customer.



Fig 3.4.1 Agile Model

Following are the Agile Manifesto principles –

- **Individuals and interactions** – In Agile development, self-organization and motivation are important, as are interactions like co-location and pair programming.
- **Working software** – Demo working software is considered the best means of communication with the customers to understand their requirements, instead of just depending on documentation.
- **Customer collaboration** – As the requirements cannot be gathered completely in the beginning of the project due to various factors, continuous customer interaction is very important to get proper product requirements.
- **Responding to change** – Agile Development is focused on quick responses to change and continuous development.

Purpose:

- Team members enjoy development work, and like to see their work used and valued.
- Scrum makes this alignment easier by providing frequent opportunities to re-prioritize work, to ensure maximum delivery of value.
- Scrum provides high visibility into the state of a development project, on a daily basis.
- Project Manager tremendous awareness about the state of the project at all times.

Advantages of Agile Model:

- Is a very realistic approach to software development.
- Promotes teamwork and cross training.
- Functionality can be developed rapidly and demonstrated.
- Resource requirements are minimum.
- Suitable for fixed or changing requirements
- Good model for environments that change steadily.
- Minimal rules, documentation easily employed.
- Little or no planning required.
- Easy to manage.
- Gives flexibility to developers.

Disadvantages of Agile Model:

- Not suitable for handling complex dependencies.
- More risk of sustainability, maintainability and extensibility.
- An overall plan, an agile leader and agile PM practice is a must without which it will not work.

Real Time Example:

- Restaurant orders:
 - Preparation of some of the food before opening the shop (sprint planning)
 - continuous delivery of orders (ad hoc stories)
 - number of successful orders (velocity)
- Cricket:
 - over (sprint length)
 - team (scrum team self-sufficient)
 - Run rate (velocity)
 - Captain/ coach (scrum master)

3.6 'V' Model:

V-model means Verification and Validation model. Just like the waterfall model, the V-Shaped life cycle is a sequential path of execution of processes. Each phase must be completed before the next phase begins.

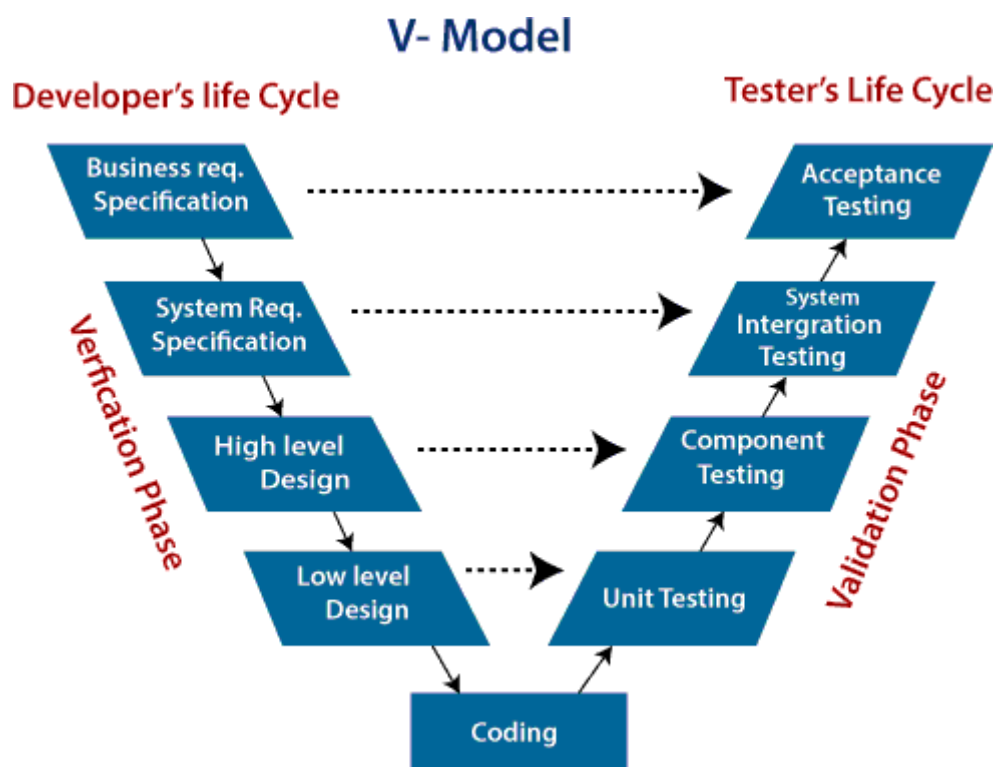


Fig 3.6.1 'V' Model

Advantages of V-model:

- Simple and easy to use.

- Testing activities like planning, test designing happens well before coding. This saves a lot of time. Hence higher chance of success over the waterfall model.
- Proactive defect tracking – that is defects are found at early stage.
- Avoids the downward flow of the defects.
- Works well for small projects where requirements are easily understood.

Disadvantages of V-model:

- Very rigid and least flexible.
- Software is developed during the implementation phase, so no early prototypes of the software are produced.
- If any changes happen in midway, then the test documents along with requirement documents has to be updated.

Purpose:

- The V-shaped model should be used for small to medium sized projects where requirements are clearly defined and fixed.
- The V-Shaped model should be chosen when ample technical resources are available with needed technical expertise.

Real Time Example:

- IT projects by federal agencies
- public-sector software projects
- In electronic and mechanical system in research and science
- software for agencies and ministries

4. Comparison between the Models

Properties of Model	Water-Fall Model	Incremental Model	Spiral Model	RAD Model	Agile Model	V shaped Model
Planning in early stage	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Returning to an earlier phase	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Handle Large-Project	Not Appropriate	Not Appropriate	Appropriate	Not Appropriate	Yes	Not appropriate
Detailed Documentation	Necessary	Yes, but not much	Yes	Limited	Yes	Yes
Cost	Low	Low	Expensive	Low	Low	Expensive
Requirement Specifications	Beginning	Beginning	Beginning	Time boxed release	Time boxed release	Beginning
Flexibility to change	Difficult	Easy	Easy	Easy	Easy	Difficult
User Involvement	Only at beginning	Intermediate	High	Only at the beginning	High	Only at the beginning
Maintenance	Least	Promotes Maintainability	Typical	Easily Maintained	Easily Maintained	Easily maintained
Duration	Long	Very long	Long	Short	Depends on project	Long
Risk Involvement	High	Low	Medium to high risk	Low	Low	Moderate to high
Framework Type	Linear	Linear + Iterative	Linear + Iterative	Linear	Iterative and incremental	Sequential
Testing	After completion of coding phase	After every iteration	At the end of the engineering phase	After completion of coding	After every iteration	After every iteration
Overlapping Phases	No	Yes (As parallel development is there)	No	Yes	No	No

Re-usability	Least possible	To some extent	To some extent	Yes	Yes	No
Time-Frame	Very Long	Long	Long	Short	Long	Ideal time
Working software availability	At the end of the life-cycle	At the end of every iteration	At the end of every iteration	At the end of the life cycle	At the end of every iteration	At the end of every iteration
Team size	Large Team	Not Large Team	Large Team	Small Team	Large team	Large team