

GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC PUNE

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Software Engineering

Practical 1

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TITLE :-

Application and use of studied process models such as Agile, RAD, Waterfall Model, Spiral Model.

THEORY :-

1). Write Definition for Software.

Definition for Software :-

Software, instructions that tell a computer what to do. Software comprises the entire set of programs, procedures, and routines associated with the operation of a computer system. The term was coined to differentiate these instructions from hardware i.e., the physical components of a computer system.

2). Write Definition for Software Engineering.

Definition for Software Engineering :-

Software engineering is a detailed study of engineering to the design, development and maintenance of software. Software engineering was introduced to address the issues of low-quality software projects. Problems arise when a software generally exceeds timelines, budgets, and reduced levels of quality.

3).What is Process.

Defination for Process :-

Software Engineering Processes A software engineering process is the model chosen for managing the creation of software from initial customer inception to the release of the finished product.

The chosen process usually involves techniques such as

- Analysis,
- Design
- Coding
- Testing and
- Maintenance

Several different process models exist and vary mainly in the frequency, application and implementation of the above techniques, for example, different process models use different analysis techniques, other models attempt to implement the solution to a problem in one big-bang approach, while others adopt an iterative approach whereby successively larger and more complete versions of the software are built with each iteration of the process model.

Various Process Models :-

- ★ Agile Model
- ★ RAD Model
- ★ Waterfall Model
- ★ Spiral Model

1).AGILE MODEL :-

The Agile model was primarily designed to help a project to adapt to change requests quickly. So, the main aim of the Agile model is to facilitate quick project completion. To accomplish this task agility is required. Agility is achieved by fitting the process to the project, removing activities that may not be essential for a specific project. Also, anything that is wastage of time and effort is avoided.

Actually Agile model refers to a group of development processes. These processes share some basic characteristics but do have certain subtle differences among themselves. A few Agile SDLC models are given below:

- Crystal
- Atern
- Feature-driven development
- Scrum
- Extreme programming (XP)
- Lean development
- Unified process

In the Agile model, the requirements are decomposed into many small parts that can be incrementally developed. The Agile model adopts Iterative development. Each incremental part is developed over an iteration. Each iteration is intended to be small and easily manageable and that can be completed within a couple of weeks only. At a time one iteration is planned, developed and deployed to the customers. Long-term plans are not made.

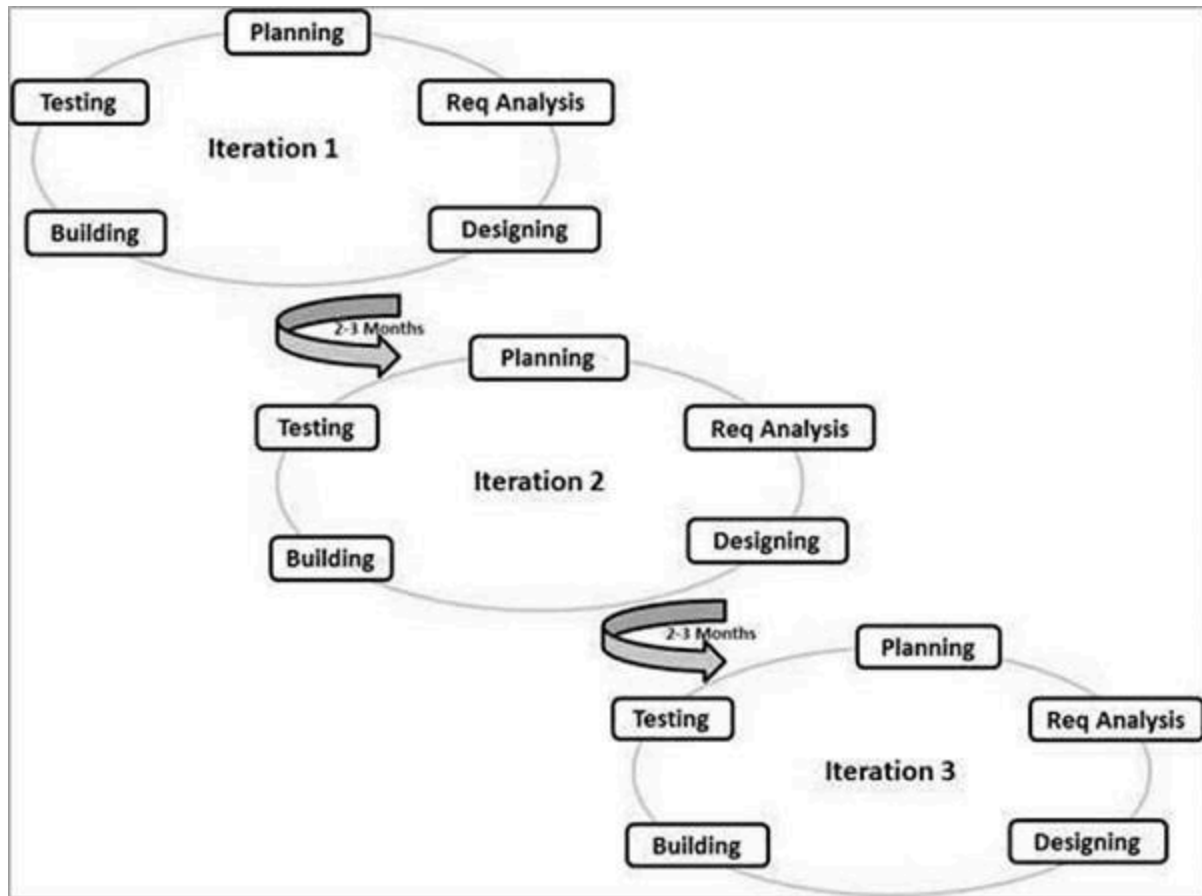
Agile model is the combination of iterative and incremental process models.

Steps involved in agile SDLC models are:-

- Requirement gathering
- Requirement Analysis
- Design
- Coding
- Unit testing
- Acceptance testing

The time to complete an iteration is known as a Time Box. Time-box refers to the maximum amount of time needed to deliver an iteration to customers. So, the end date for an iteration does not change. Though the development team can decide to reduce the delivered functionality during a Time-box if necessary to deliver it on time. The central principle of the Agile model is the delivery of an increment to the customer after each Time-box.

Here is a graphical illustration of the Agile Model :-



Principles of Agile model:-

- To establish close contact with the customer during development and to gain a clear understanding of various requirements, each Agile project usually includes a customer representative on the team. At the end of each iteration stakeholders and the customer representative review, the progress made and re-evaluate the requirements.
- Agile model relies on working software deployment rather than comprehensive documentation.
- Frequent delivery of incremental versions of the software to the customer representative in intervals of few weeks.
- Requirement change requests from the customer are encouraged and efficiently incorporated.
- It emphasizes on having efficient team members and enhancing communications among them is given more importance. It is realized that enhanced communication among the development team members can be achieved through face-to-face communication rather than through the exchange of formal documents.
- It is recommended that the development team size should be kept small (5 to 9 people) to help the team members meaningfully engage in face-to-face communication and have collaborative work environment.

- Agile development process usually deploy Pair Programming. In Pair programming, two programmers work together at one work-station. One does coding while the other reviews the code as it is typed in. The two programmers switch their roles every hour or so.

Advantages :-

- Working through Pair programming produce well written compact programs which has fewer errors as compared to programmers working alone.
- It reduces total development time of the whole project.
- Customer representatives get the idea of updated software products after each iteration. So, it is easy for him to change any requirement if needed.

Disadvantages :-

- Due to lack of formal documents, it creates confusion and important decisions taken during different phases can be misinterpreted at any time by different team members.
- Due to the absence of proper documentation, when the project completes and the developers are assigned to another project, maintenance of the developed project can become a problem.

2).RAD MODEL :-

The RAD (Rapid Application Development) model is based on prototyping and iterative development with no specific planning involved. The process of writing the software itself involves the planning required for developing the product.

Rapid Application Development focuses on gathering customer requirements through workshops or focus groups, early testing of the prototypes by the customer using iterative concept, reuse of the existing prototypes (components), continuous integration and rapid delivery.

What is RAD?

Rapid application development is a software development methodology that uses minimal planning in favor of rapid prototyping. A prototype is a working model that is functionally equivalent to a component of the product.

In the RAD model, the functional modules are developed in parallel as prototypes and are integrated to make the complete product for faster product delivery. Since there is no detailed preplanning, it makes it easier to incorporate the changes within the development process.

RAD projects follow iterative and incremental model and have small teams comprising of developers, domain experts, customer representatives and other IT resources working progressively on their component or prototype.

The most important aspect for this model to be successful is to make sure that the prototypes developed are reusable.

Design :-

RAD model distributes the analysis, design, build and test phases into a series of short, iterative development cycles.

Following are the various phases of the RAD Model :-**Business Modelling**

The business model for the product under development is designed in terms of flow of information and the distribution of information between various business channels. A complete business analysis is performed to find the vital information for business, how it can be obtained, how and when is the information processed and what are the factors driving successful flow of information.

Data Modelling

The information gathered in the Business Modelling phase is reviewed and analyzed to form sets of data objects vital for the business. The attributes of all data sets is identified and defined. The relation between these data objects are established and defined in detail in relevance to the business model.

Process Modelling

The data object sets defined in the Data Modelling phase are converted to establish the business information flow needed to achieve specific business objectives as per the business model. The process model for any changes or enhancements to the data object sets is defined in this phase. Process descriptions for adding, deleting, retrieving or modifying a data object are given.

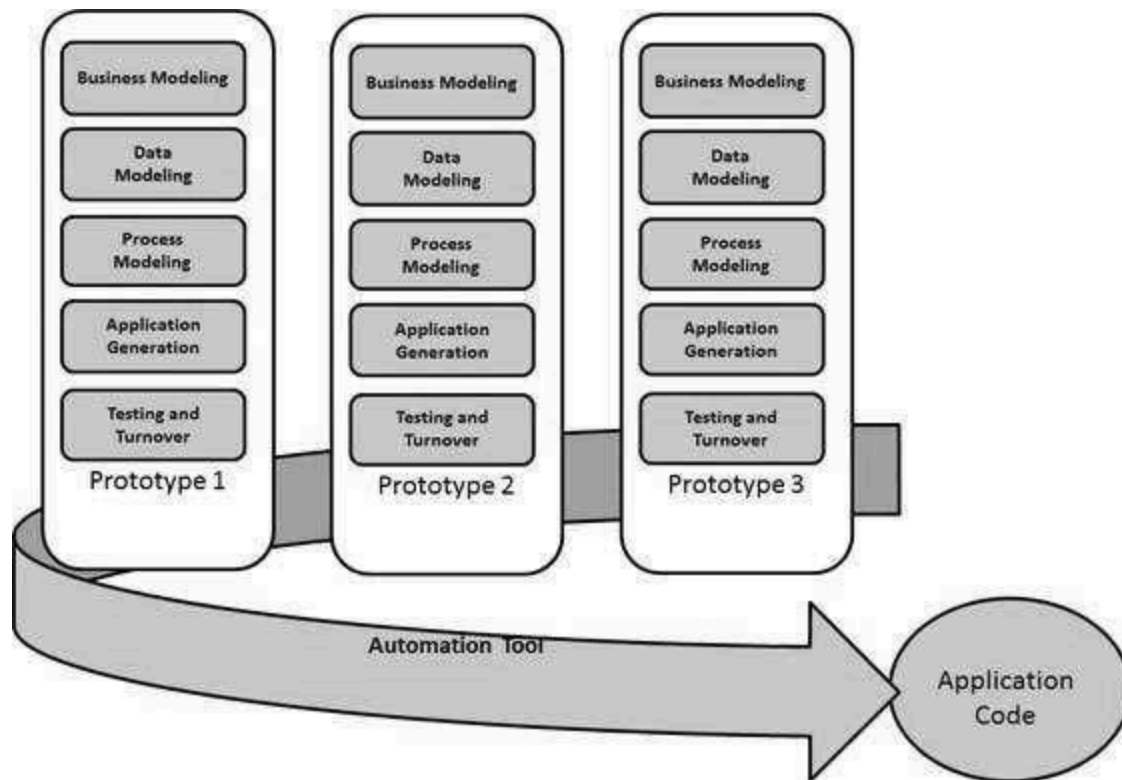
Application Generation

The actual system is built and coding is done by using automation tools to convert process and data models into actual prototypes.

Testing and Turnover

The overall testing time is reduced in the RAD model as the prototypes are independently tested during every iteration. However, the data flow and the interfaces between all the components need to be thoroughly tested with complete test coverage. Since most of the programming components have already been tested, it reduces the risk of any major issues.

The following illustration describes the RAD Model in detail.



Application :-

RAD model can be applied successfully to the projects in which clear modularization is possible. If the project cannot be broken into modules, RAD may fail.

The following pointers describe the typical scenarios where RAD can be used –

- RAD should be used only when a system can be modularized to be delivered in an incremental manner.
- It should be used if there is a high availability of designers for Modelling.
- It should be used only if the budget permits use of automated code generating tools.
- RAD SDLC model should be chosen only if domain experts are available with relevant business knowledge.
- Should be used where the requirements change during the project and working prototypes are to be presented to customer in small iterations of 2-3 months.

RAD Model - Pros and Cons

RAD model enables rapid delivery as it reduces the overall development time due to the reusability of the components and parallel development. RAD works well only if high skilled engineers are available and the customer is also committed to achieve the targeted prototype in the given time frame. If there is commitment lacking on either side the model may fail.

Advantages :-

- Changing requirements can be accommodated.
- Progress can be measured.
- Iteration time can be short with use of powerful RAD tools.
- Productivity with fewer people in a short time.
- 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 :-

- Dependency on technically strong team members for identifying business requirements.
- Only system that can be modularized can be built using RAD.
- Requires highly skilled developers/designers.
- High dependency on Modelling skills.
- Inapplicable to cheaper projects as cost of Modelling and automated code generation is very high.
- Management complexity is more.
- Suitable for systems that are component based and scalable.
- Requires user involvement throughout the life cycle.
- Suitable for project requiring shorter development times.

3).WATERFALL MODEL :-

The Waterfall Model was the first Process Model to be introduced. It is also referred to as a linear-sequential life cycle model. It is very simple to understand and use. In a waterfall model, each phase must be completed before the next phase can begin and there is no overlapping in the phases.

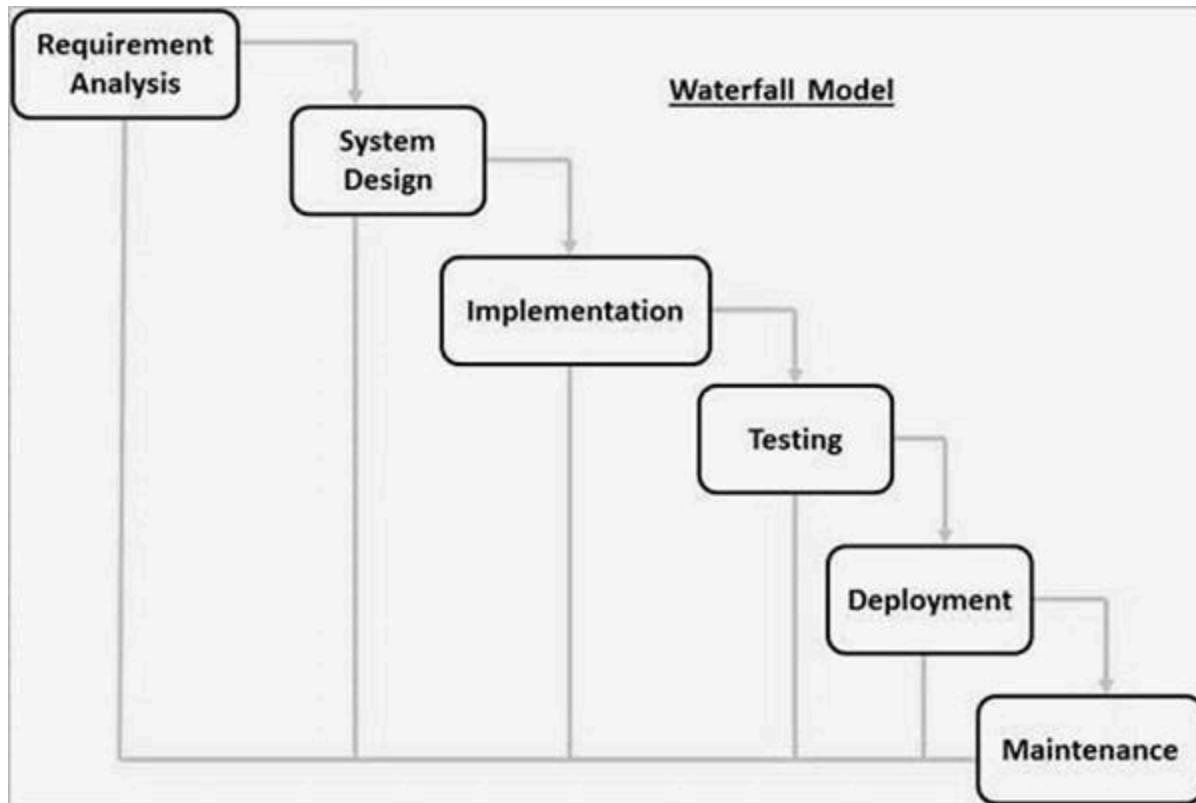
The Waterfall model is the earliest SDLC approach that was used for software development.

The waterfall Model illustrates the software development process in a linear sequential flow. This means that any phase in the development process begins only if the previous phase is complete. In this waterfall model, the phases do not overlap.

Design :-

Waterfall approach was first SDLC Model to be used widely in Software Engineering to ensure success of the project. In "The Waterfall" approach, the whole process of software development is divided into separate phases. In this Waterfall model, typically, the outcome of one phase acts as the input for the next phase sequentially.

The following illustration is a representation of the different phases of the Waterfall Model.



The sequential phases in Waterfall model are –

- Requirement Gathering and analysis – All possible requirements of the system to be developed are captured in this phase and documented in a requirement specification document.
- System Design – The requirement specifications from first phase are studied in this phase and the system design is prepared. This system design helps in specifying hardware and system requirements and helps in defining the overall system architecture.
- Implementation – With inputs from the system design, the system is first developed in small programs called units, which are integrated in the next phase. Each unit is developed and tested for its functionality, which is referred to as Unit Testing.
- Integration and Testing – All the units developed in the implementation phase are integrated into a system after testing of each unit. Post integration the entire system is tested for any faults and failures.
- Deployment of system – Once the functional and non-functional testing is done; the product is deployed in the customer environment or released into the market.
- Maintenance – There are some issues which come up in the client environment. To fix those issues, patches are released. Also to enhance the product some better versions are released. Maintenance is done to deliver these changes in the customer environment.

All these phases are cascaded to each other in which progress is seen as flowing steadily downwards (like a waterfall) through the phases. The next phase is started only after the defined set of goals are achieved for previous phase and it is signed off, so the name "Waterfall Model". In this model, phases do not overlap.

Application :-

Every software developed is different and requires a suitable SDLC approach to be followed based on the internal and external factors. Some situations where the use of Waterfall model is most appropriate are –

- Requirements are very well documented, clear and fixed.

- Product definition is stable.
- Technology is understood and is not dynamic.
- There are no ambiguous requirements.
- Ample resources with required expertise are available to support the product.
- The project is short.

Advantages :-

The advantages of waterfall development are that it allows for departmentalization and control. A schedule can be set with deadlines for each stage of development and a product can proceed through the development process model phases one by one.

Development moves from concept, through design, implementation, testing, installation, troubleshooting, and ends up at operation and maintenance. Each phase of development proceeds in strict order.

Some of the major advantages of the Waterfall Model are as follows –

- Simple and easy to understand and use
- Easy to manage due to the rigidity of the model. Each phase has specific deliverables and a review process.
- Phases are processed and completed one at a time.
- Works well for smaller projects where requirements are very well understood.
- Clearly defined stages.
- Well understood milestones.
- Easy to arrange tasks.
- Process and results are well documented.

Disadvantages :-

The disadvantage of waterfall development is that it does not allow much reflection or revision. Once an application is in the testing stage, it is very difficult to go back and change something that was not well-documented or thought upon in the concept stage.

The major disadvantages of the Waterfall Model are as follows –

- No working software is produced until late during the life cycle.
- High amounts of risk and uncertainty.
- Not a good model for complex and object-oriented projects.
- Poor model for long and ongoing projects.
- Not suitable for the projects where requirements are at a moderate to high risk of changing. So, risk and uncertainty is high with this process model.
- It is difficult to measure progress within stages.
- Cannot accommodate changing requirements.
- Adjusting scope during the life cycle can end a project.
- Integration is done as a "big-bang" at the very end, which doesn't allow identifying any technological or business bottleneck or challenges early.

4).SPIRAL MODEL :-

The spiral model combines the idea of iterative development with the systematic, controlled aspects of the waterfall model. This Spiral model is a combination of iterative development process model and sequential linear development model i.e. the waterfall model with a very high emphasis on risk analysis. It allows incremental releases of the product or incremental refinement through each iteration around the spiral.

Design :-

The spiral model has four phases. A software project repeatedly passes through these phases in iterations called Spirals.

Identification :-

This phase starts with gathering the business requirements in the baseline spiral. In the subsequent spirals as the product matures, identification of system requirements, subsystem requirements and unit requirements are all done in this phase.

This phase also includes understanding the system requirements by continuous communication between the customer and the system analyst. At the end of the spiral, the product is deployed in the identified market.

Design :-

The Design phase starts with the conceptual design in the baseline spiral and involves architectural design, logical design of modules, physical product design and the final design in the subsequent spirals.

Construct or Build :-

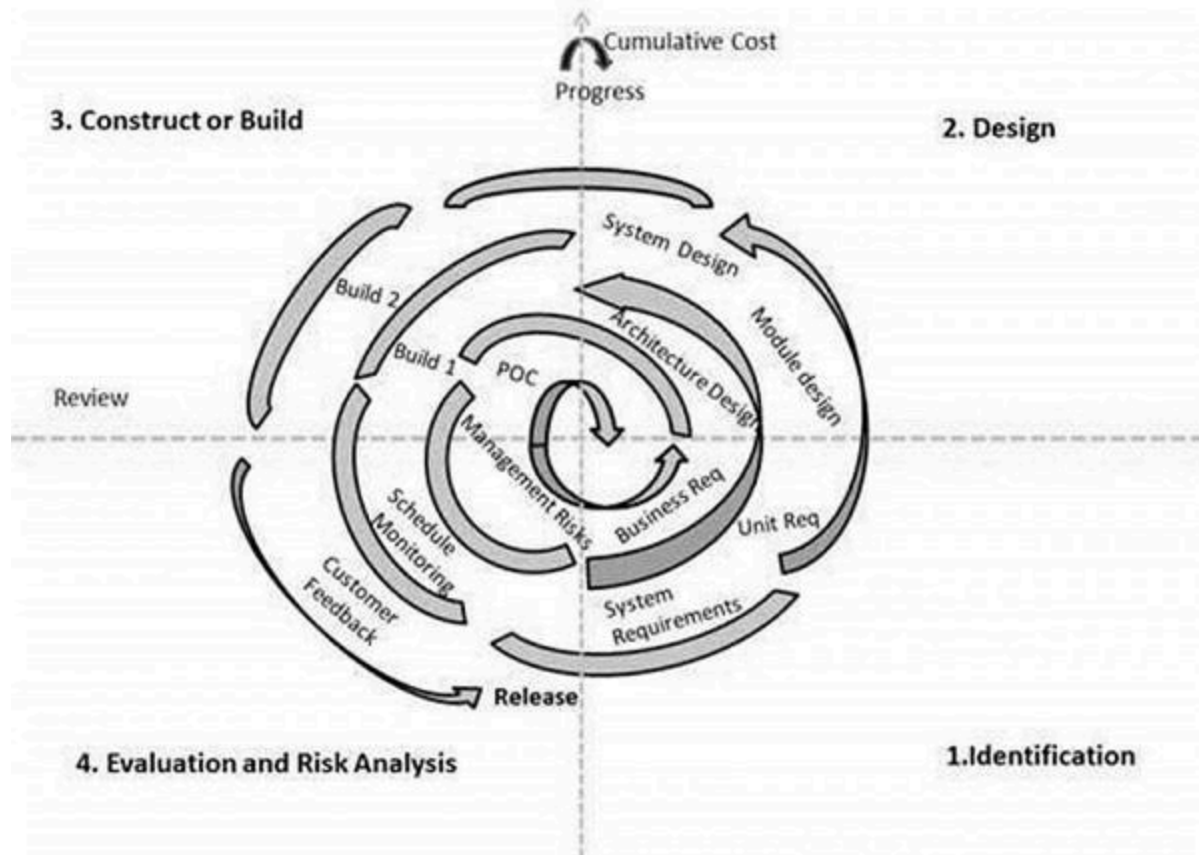
The Construct phase refers to production of the actual software product at every spiral. In the baseline spiral, when the product is just thought of and the design is being developed a POC (Proof of Concept) is developed in this phase to get customer feedback.

Then in the subsequent spirals with higher clarity on requirements and design details a working model of the software called build is produced with a version number. These builds are sent to the customer for feedback.

Evaluation and Risk Analysis :-

Risk Analysis includes identifying, estimating and monitoring the technical feasibility and management risks, such as schedule slippage and cost overrun. After testing the build, at the end of first iteration, the customer evaluates the software and provides feedback.

The following illustration is a representation of the Spiral Model, listing the activities in each phase.



Based on the customer evaluation, the software development process enters the next iteration and subsequently follows the linear approach to implement the feedback suggested by the customer. The process of iterations along the spiral continues throughout the life of the software.

Application :-

The Spiral Model is widely used in the software industry as it is in sync with the natural development process of any product, i.e. learning with maturity which involves minimum risk for the customer as well as the development firms.

The following pointers explain the typical uses of a Spiral Model –

- When there is a budget constraint and risk evaluation is important.
- For medium to high-risk projects.
- Long-term project commitment because of potential changes to economic priorities as the requirements change with time.
- Customer is not sure of their requirements which is usually the case.
- Requirements are complex and need evaluation to get clarity.
- New product line which should be released in phases to get enough customer feedback.
- Significant changes are expected in the product during the development cycle.

Spiral Model - Pros and Cons

The advantage of spiral lifecycle model is that it allows elements of the product to be added in, when they become available or known. This assures that there is no conflict with previous requirements and design.

This method is consistent with approaches that have multiple software builds and releases which allows making an orderly transition to a maintenance activity. Another positive aspect of this method is that the spiral model forces an early user involvement in the system development effort.

On the other side, it takes a very strict management to complete such products and there is a risk of running the spiral in an indefinite loop. So, the discipline of change and the extent of taking change requests is very important to develop and deploy the product successfully.

Advantages :-

- Changing requirements can be accommodated.
- Allows extensive use of prototypes.
- Requirements can be captured more accurately.
- Users see the system early.
- Development can be divided into smaller parts and the risky parts can be developed earlier which helps in better risk management.

Disadvantages :-

- Management is more complex.
- End of the project may not be known early.
- Not suitable for small or low risk projects and could be expensive for small projects.
- Process is complex
- Spiral may go on indefinitely.
- Large number of intermediate stages requires excessive documentation.