SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

LECTURE 3:
UNIFIED PROCESS

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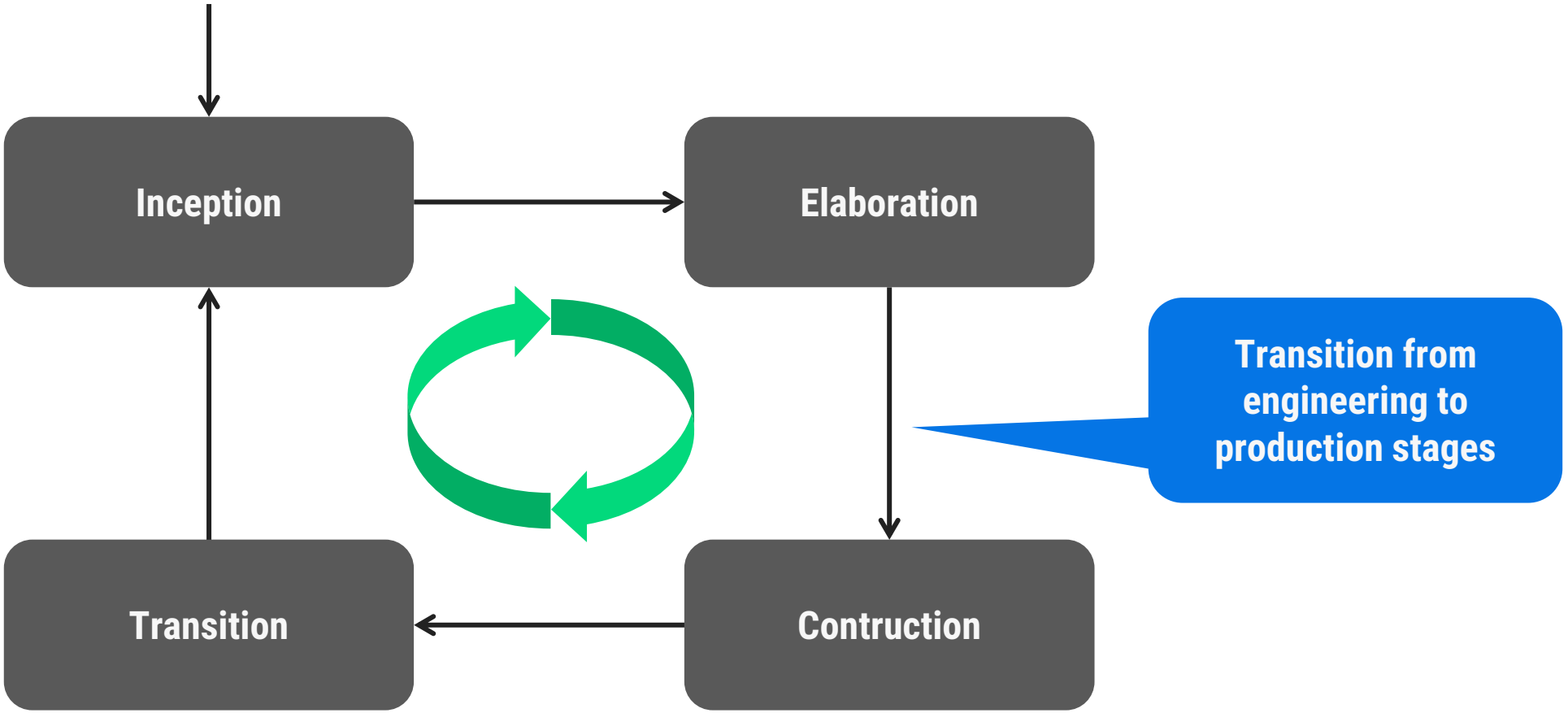
UNIFIED PROCESS (UP)

- Full name: **Unified Software Development Process** (**USDP**)
- Developed by Booch, Jacobson, and Rumbaugh in 1999
- Aimed to be extensible framework that can be customized to fit different projects
- IBM Rational Software division refined the process and commercialize it as **Rational Unified Process (RUP)**
  - There are some other refinements too
- UP is use-case driven and iterative and incremental
  - It uses use cases as basis for all development processes
  - Each **iteration** implements some use cases and scenarios

UP STAGES

- **Engineering Stage**: Driven by less predictable but smaller teams, focusing on design and synthesis activities
  - Inception phase
  - Elaboration phase
- **Production Stage**: Driven by more predictable but larger teams, focusing on construction, test and deployment activities
  - Construction phase
  - Transition phase

UP'S SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT PHASES



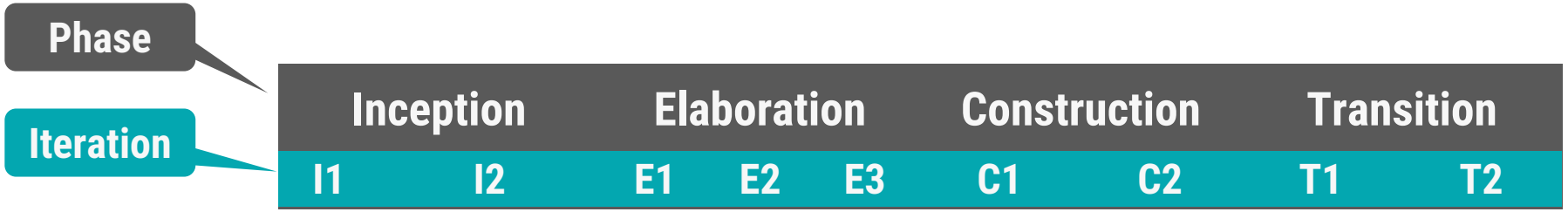
UNIFIED PROCESS ITERATIONS

- Each of the four phases (inception, elaboration, construction, transition) consists of one or more **iterations**
- An iteration represents:
  - A set of **milestone** activities
  - A well-defined intermediate event
- The scope and results of each iteration are captured via work products (or **artifacts**)

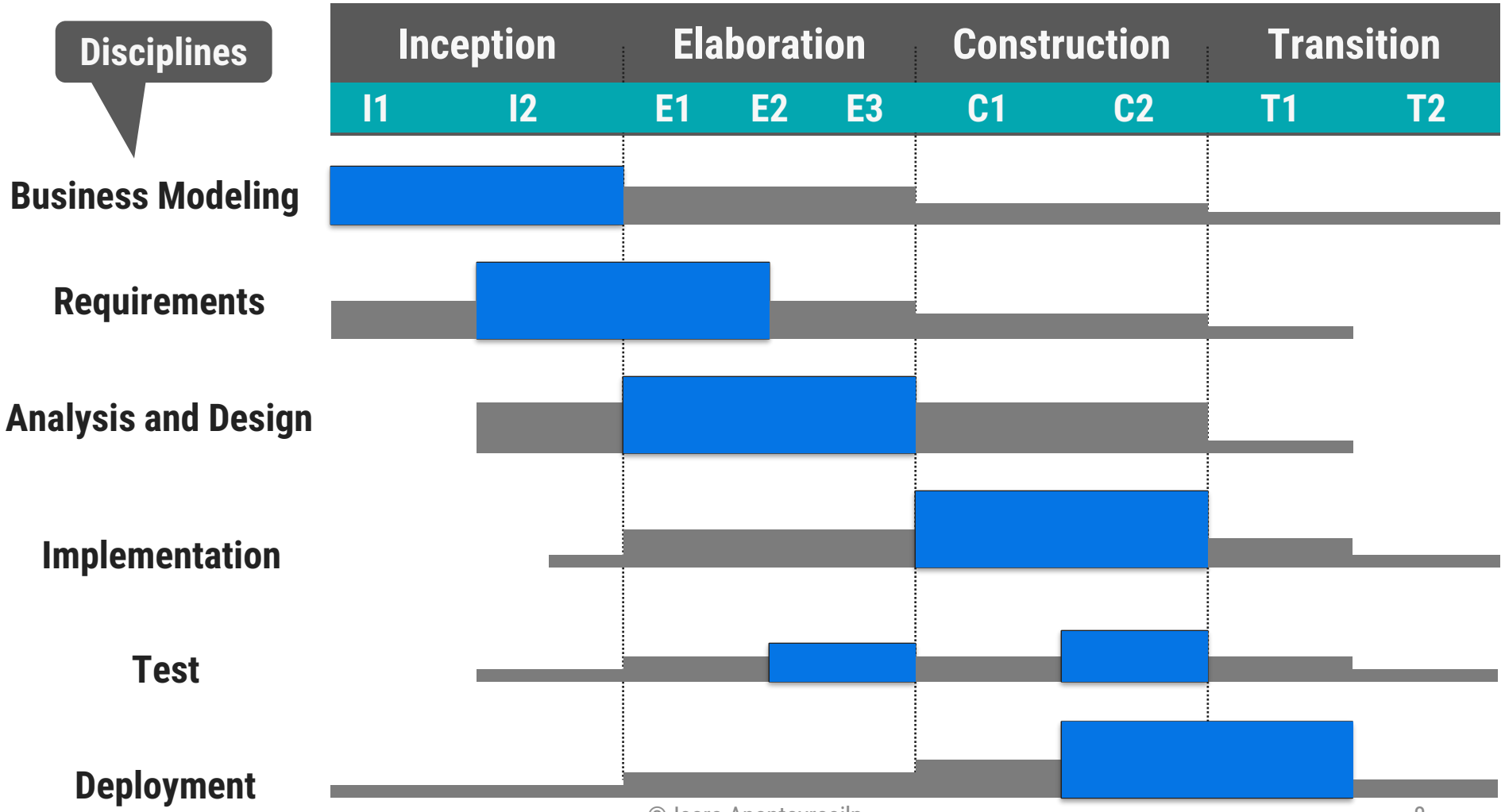
UP'S PHASE VS. ITERATION

- A **phase** creates a formal, stake-holder approved version of artifacts
  - It leads to a **major milestone**
  - Phase to phase transition: Triggered by a significant business decision (not by the completion of a software development activity)
- An **iteration** creates an informal, internally controlled version of artifacts
  - It leads to a **minor milestone**
  - Iteration to iteration transition: Triggered by a specific software development activity

EACH PHASE HAS ONE OR MORE ITERATIONS



EACH ITERATION CYCLES THROUGH DISCIPLINES (WORKFLOWS)



INCEPTION PHASE: **OBJECTIVES**

- **Establish** the project ***scope***
- **Identify** the critical ***use cases*** and ***scenarios***
- **Define** acceptance ***criteria***
- **Demonstrate** at least one candidate software ***architecture***
- **Estimate** the ***cost*** and ***schedule*** for the project
- **Define** and ***estimate*** potential ***risks***

INCEPTION PHASE: **ACTIVITIES**

- **Formulate** the ***scope*** of the project
  - Capture requirements
  - Result: problem space and acceptance criteria are defined
- **Design** the software ***architecture***
  - Evaluate design trade-offs, investigate solution space
  - Result: Feasibility of at least one candidate architecture is explored, initial set of build vs. buy decisions
- **Plan** and prepare a ***business case***
  - Evaluate alternatives for risks, staffing problems, plans.

INCEPTION PHASE: **EVALUATION**

- Do all **stakeholders concur** on the scope definition and cost and schedule estimates?
- Are the **requirements understood**, are the critical use cases adequately modeled?
- Is the software **architecture understood**?
- Are cost, schedule **estimates, priorities, risks** and development processes **credible**?
- Is there a **prototype** that helps in evaluating the criteria?

ELABORATION PHASE: **OBJECTIVES**

- **Baseline** the **software architecture**
  - Establish a configuration management plan in which all changes are tracked and maintained
- **Baseline** the **problem statement**
- **Baseline** the **software project management plan** for the construction phase
- **Demonstrate** that the **architecture** supports the requirements at a reasonable cost in a reasonable time
- **Baseline**: An agreed-to description of the attributes of a product, at a point in time, which serves as a basis for defining change

ELABORATION PHASE: **ACTIVITIES**

- **Elaborate** the ***problem statement*** (***vision***) by working out the critical use cases that drive technical and managerial decisions
- **Elaborate** the ***infrastructure***
- **Tailor** the ***software process*** for the construction stage, identify tools
- **Establish** intermediate ***milestones*** and evaluation ***criteria*** for these milestones
- **Identify** buy/build (“make/buy”) problems and make decisions
- **Identify** ***lessons learned*** from the inception phase to redesign the software architecture if necessary
  - It is always necessary

ELABORATION PHASE: **EVALUATION**

- Is the **problem statement stable**?
- Is the **architecture stable**?
- Does the executable demonstration show that the major **risk** elements have been **addressed** and credibly resolved?
- Is the construction **plan credible**? By what claims is it backed up?
- Do all **stakeholders** (project participants) **agree** that the vision expressed in the problem can be met if the current plan is executed?
- Are actual **resource expenditures** versus planned expenditures so far **acceptable**?

CONSTRUCTION PHASE: **OBJECTIVES**

- Minimize development costs by optimizing resources
- Achieve adequate quality as rapidly as practical
- Achieve useful version (alpha, beta, and other test releases) as soon as possible

CONSTRUCTION PHASE: **ACTIVITIES**

- Resource management, control and process optimization
- Complete component development and testing against evaluation criteria
- Assessment of product releases against acceptance criteria

CONSTRUCTION PHASE: **EVALUATION**

- Is the **product** baseline **matured** enough to be deployed in the user community?
  - Existing faults are not obstacles to do the release
- Is the **product** baseline **stable** enough to be deployed in the user community?
  - Pending changes are not obstacles to do the release
- Are the **stakeholders ready** for the transition of the software system to the user community?
- Are actual resource **expenditures** versus planned expenditures so far **acceptable**?

TRANSITION PHASE

- The transition phase is entered when
  - the system has been built with acceptable quality levels and documentation
  - the system can be deployed to the user community
- For some projects, the transition phase means the starting point for another version of the software system
  - Back to Inception
- For other projects, the transition phase means the complete delivery of the software system

TRANSITION PHASE: **OBJECTIVES**

- Achieve **independence of user** so that the users can support themselves
- **Deployment baseline** is complete and consistent with the criteria in the project agreement
- The **final baseline** can be built as rapidly and cost-effectively as possible.

TRANSITION PHASE: **ACTIVITIES**

- Synchronization and **integration** of concurrent development increments into one consistent deployment baseline
- Commercial **packaging** and **production**
- Sales **rollout kit** development
- Field personnel **training**
- **Test** of deployment baseline against the acceptance criteria.

TRANSITION PHASE: **EVALUATION**

- Is the user **satisfied**?
- Are actual resource **expenditures** versus planned expenditures so far **acceptable**?

ARTIFACT AND **ARTIFACT SET**

- **Artifact**: A work product in a uniform representation format (natural language, UML, Java, binary code,…)
- **Artifact set**: A set of artifacts developed and reviewed as a single entity
- The Unified Process distinguishes five artifact sets
  - Management set
  - Requirements set
  - Design set
  - Implementation set
  - Deployment set

Also called **Engineering Set**

Artifact Sets in the Unified Process

Engineering Set

Requirements Set	Design Set	Implementation Set	Deployment Set
1. Vision document 2. Requirements model(s)	1. Design model(s) 2. Test model 3. Software architecture	1. Source code baselines 2. Compile-time files 3. Component executables	1. Integrated product executable 2. Run-time files 3. User documentation

Management Set

Planning Artifacts

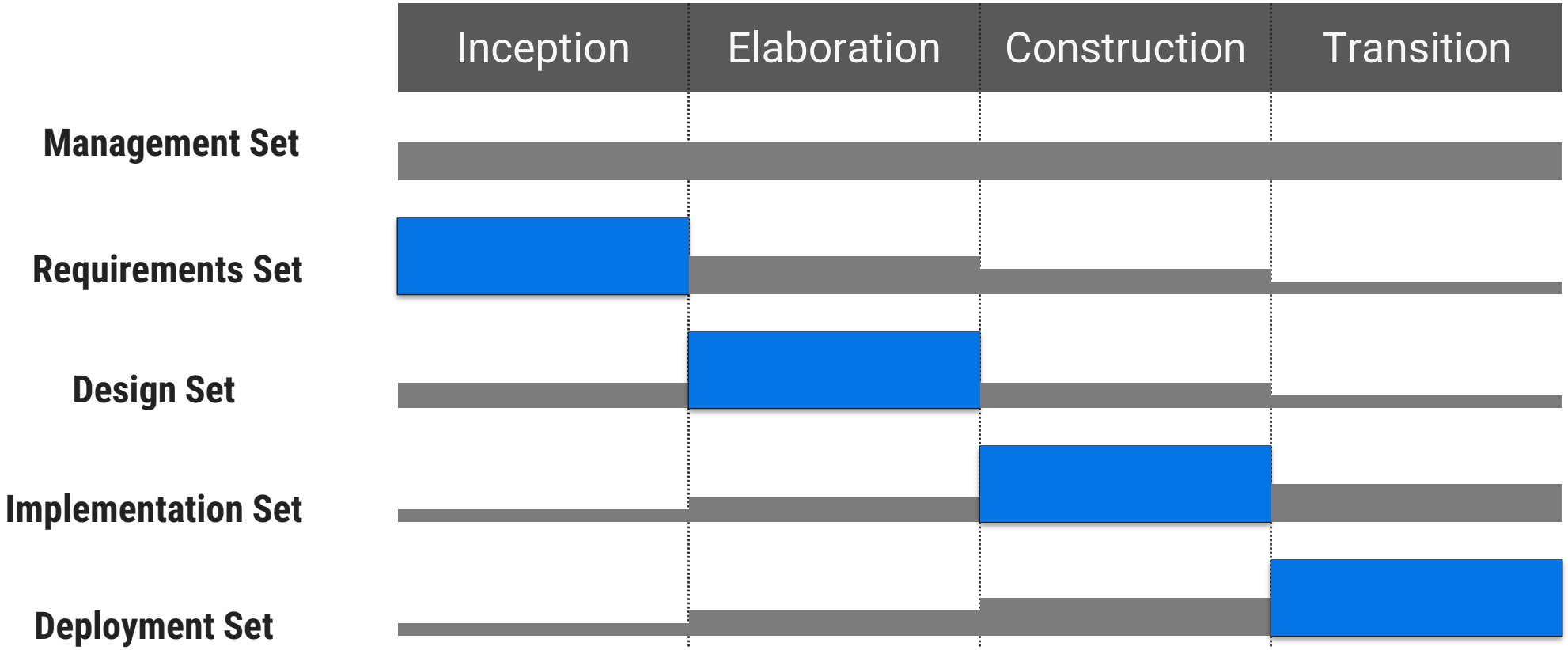
1 Software Project Management Plan (SPMP)
2. Software Configuration Management Plan (SCMP)
3. Work breakdown structure
4. Business Case
5. Release specifications

Operational Artifacts

1. Release descriptions
2. Status assessments
3. Change Management database
4. Deployment documents
5. Environment.

Software Life-Cycle and Artifact Sets

- Each artifact set is the predominant focus in one stage of the unified process



(DIS)ADVANTAGES OF UNIFIED PROCESS

- **Advantages:**
  - UP is inclusive: Most of software development works are included in the framework
    - Business models and project management
    - Development and deployment
  - It is mature and widely used
- **Disadvantage:**
  - Not suitable for small projects: There are too many works to do
  - Customizing UP to fit a project requires UP expert
  - Going through all workflows in each iteration requires both time and resources
- **Note**: UP is flexible and these disadvantages can be avoided by adapting UP to your working environment