Software
Project Planning

Software Project Planning

After the finalization of SRS, we would like to estimate size, cost and development time of the project. Also, in many cases, customer may like to know the cost and development time even prior to finalization of the SRS.

Software Project Planning

In order to conduct a successful software project, we must understand:

- Scope of work to be done

- The risk to be incurred

- The resources required

- The task to be accomplished

- The cost to be expended

- The schedule to be followed

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Software planning begins before technical work starts, continues as the software evolves from concept to reality, and culminates only when the software is retired.
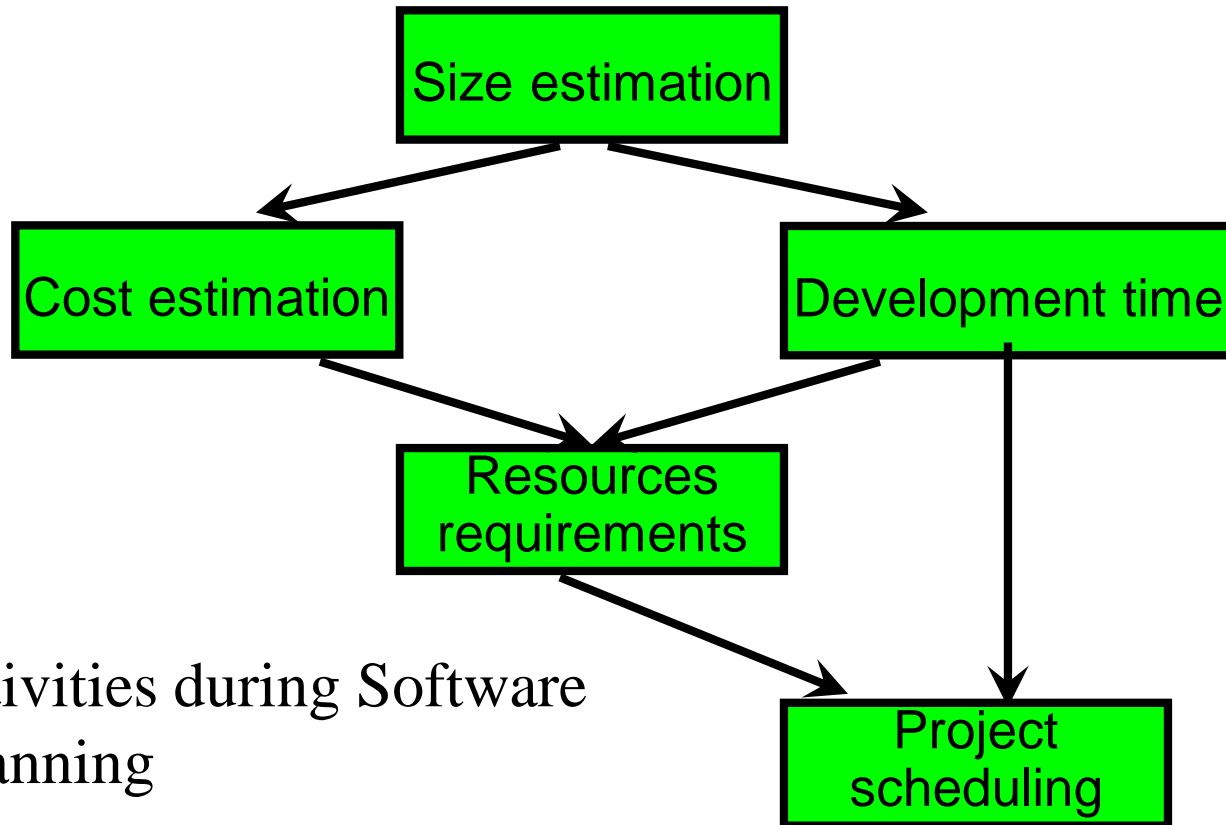
```
                    ┌─────────────────┐
                    │ Size estimation │
                    └─────────────────┘
                     ↙               ↘
        ┌─────────────────┐   ┌──────────────────┐
        │ Cost estimation │   │ Development time │
        └─────────────────┘   └──────────────────┘
                 ↘             ↙            │
              ┌──────────────────┐          │
              │    Resources     │          │
              │   requirements   │          │
              └──────────────────┘          │
                        ↘                    ↓
                        ┌──────────────────┐
                        │     Project      │
                        │    scheduling    │
                        └──────────────────┘
```

Fig. 1: Activities during Software Project Planning

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Size Estimation

Lines of Code (LOC)

If LOC is simply a count of the number of lines then figure shown below contains 18 LOC .

When comments and blank lines are ignored, the program in figure 2 shown below contains 17 LOC.

Fig. 2: Function for sorting an array

1.	int. sort (int x[ ], int n)
2.	{
3.	int i, j, save, im1;
4.	/*This function sorts array x in ascending order */
5.	If (n<2) return 1;
6.	for (i=2; i<=n; i++)
7.	{
8.	im1=i-1;
9.	for (j=1; j<=im; j++)
10.	if (x[i] < x[j])
11.	{
12.	Save = x[i];
13.	x[i] = x[j];
14.	x[j] = save;
15.	}
16.	}
17.	return 0;
18.	}

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Furthermore, if the main interest is the size of the program for specific functionality, it may be reasonable to include executable statements. The only executable statements in figure shown above are in lines 5-17 leading to a count of 13. The differences in the counts are 18 to 17 to 13. One can easily see the potential for major discrepancies for large programs with many comments or programs written in language that allow a large number of descriptive but non-executable statement. Conte has defined lines of code as:

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"A line of code is any line of program text that is not a comment or blank line, regardless of the number of statements or fragments of statements on the line. This specifically includes all lines containing program header, declaration, and executable and non-executable statements".

This is the predominant definition for lines of code used by researchers. By this definition, figure shown above has 17 LOC.

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Function Count

Alan Albrecht while working for IBM, recognized the problem in size measurement in the 1970s, and developed a technique (which he called Function Point Analysis), which appeared to be a solution to the size measurement problem.

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The principle of Albrecht's function point analysis (FPA) is that a system is decomposed into functional units.

- Inputs   :   information entering the system
- Outputs   :   information leaving the system
- Enquiries   :   requests for instant access to information
- Internal logical files   :   information held within the system
- External interface files :   information held by other system that is used by the system being analyzed.

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The FPA functional units are shown in figure given below:
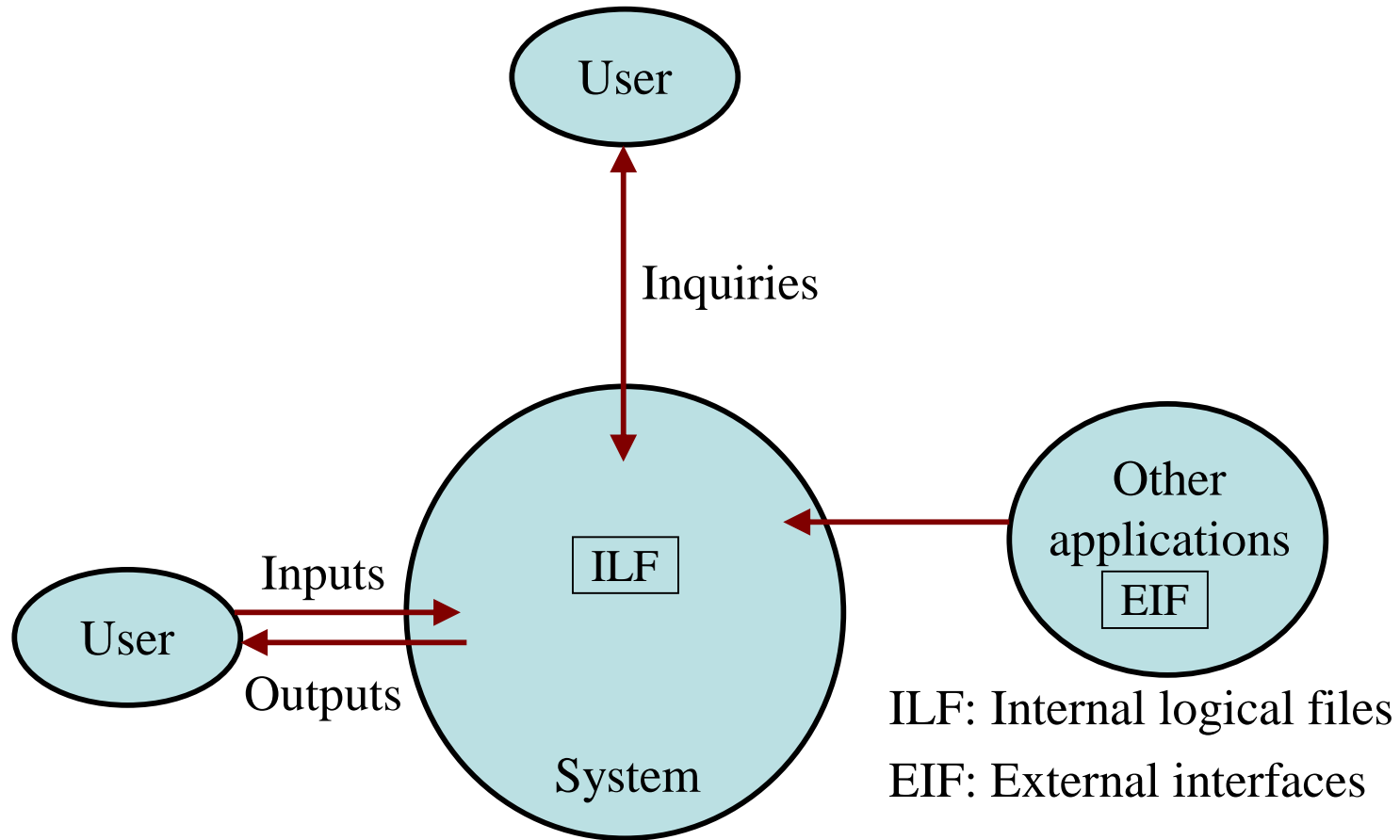
Fig. 3: FPAs functional units System

ILF: Internal logical files

EIF: External interfaces

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The five functional units are divided in two categories:

(i) Data function types

- Internal Logical Files (ILF): A user identifiable group of logical related data or control information maintained within the system.

- External Interface files (EIF): A user identifiable group of logically related data or control information referenced by the system, but maintained within another system. This means that EIF counted for one system, may be an ILF in another system.

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(ii) Transactional function types

- External Input (EI): An EI processes data or control information that comes from outside the system. The EI is an elementary process, which is the smallest unit of activity that is meaningful to the end user in the business.

- External Output (EO): An EO is an elementary process that generate data or control information to be sent outside the system.

- External Inquiry (EQ): An EQ is an elementary process that is made up to an input-output combination that results in data retrieval.

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Special features

➢ Function point approach is independent of the language, tools, or methodologies used for implementation; i.e. they do not take into consideration programming languages, data base management systems, processing hardware or any other data base technology.

➢ Function points can be estimated from requirement specification or design specification, thus making it possible to estimate development efforts in early phases of development.

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➢ Function points are directly linked to the statement of requirements; any change of requirements can easily be followed by a re-estimate.

➢ Function points are based on the system user's external view of the system, non-technical users of the software system have a better understanding of what function points are measuring.

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Counting function points

Functional Units	Weighting factors		
	Low	Average	High
External Inputs (EI)	3	4	6
External Output (EO)	4	5	7
External Inquiries (EQ)	3	4	6
External logical files (ILF)	7	10	15
External Interface files (EIF)	5	7	10

Table 1 : Functional units with weighting factors

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Table 2: UFP calculation table

Functional Units	Count Complexity		Complexity Totals		Functional Unit Totals
External Inputs (EIs)	☐	Low x 3	=	☐	
	☐	Average x 4	=	☐	
	☐	High x 6	=	☐	☐
External Outputs (EOs)	☐	Low x 4	=	☐	
	☐	Average x 5	=	☐	
	☐	High x 7	=	☐	☐
External Inquiries (EQs)	☐	Low x 3	=	☐	
	☐	Average x 4	=	☐	
	☐	High x 6	=	☐	☐
External logical Files (ILFs)	☐	Low x 7	=	☐	
	☐	Average x 10	=	☐	
	☐	High x 15	=	☐	☐
External Interface Files (EIFs)	☐	Low x 5	=	☐	
	☐	Average x 7	=	☐	
	☐	High x 10	=	☐	☐
Total Unadjusted Function Point Count					☐

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The weighting factors are identified for all functional units and multiplied with the functional units accordingly. The procedure for the calculation of Unadjusted Function Point (UFP) is given in table shown above.

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The procedure for the calculation of UFP in mathematical form is given below:

$$UFP = \sum_{i=1}^{5} \sum_{J=1}^{3} Z_{ij} w_{ij}$$

Where i indicate the row and j indicates the column of Table 1

W_{ij} : It is the entry of the ith row and j[th] column of the table 1

Zij : It is the count of the number of functional units of Type *i* that have been classified as having the complexity corresponding to column *j*.

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Organizations that use function point methods develop a criterion for determining whether a particular entry is Low, Average or High. Nonetheless, the determination of complexity is somewhat subjective.
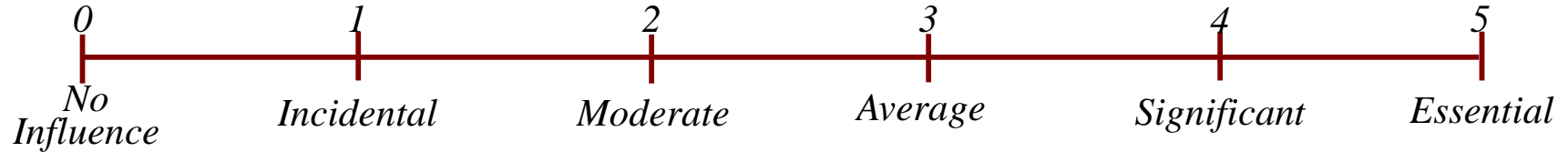
$$FP = UFP * CAF$$

Where CAF is complexity adjustment factor and is equal to [0.65 + 0.01 x ΣF_i]. The F_i (*i*=1 to 14) are the degree of influence and are based on responses to questions noted in table 3.

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Table 3 : Computing function points.

Rate each factor on a scale of 0 to 5.

0	1	2	3	4	5
No Influence	*Incidental*	*Moderate*	*Average*	*Significant*	*Essential*

Number of factors considered (F_i)

1. Does the system require reliable backup and recovery ?

2. Is data communication required ?

3. Are there distributed processing functions ?

4. Is performance critical ?

5. Will the system run in an existing heavily utilized operational environment ?

6. Does the system require on line data entry ?

7. Does the on line data entry require the input transaction to be built over multiple screens or operations ?

8. Are the master files updated on line ?

9. Is the inputs, outputs, files, or inquiries complex ?

10. Is the internal processing complex ?

11. Is the code designed to be reusable ?

12. Are conversion and installation included in the design ?

13. Is the system designed for multiple installations in different organizations ?

14. Is the application designed to facilitate change and ease of use by the user ?

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Functions points may compute the following important metrics:

Productivity	=	FP / persons-months
Quality	=	Defects / FP
Cost	=	Rupees / FP
Documentation	=	Pages of documentation per FP

These metrics are controversial and are not universally acceptable. There are standards issued by the International Functions Point User Group (IFPUG, covering the Albrecht method) and the United Kingdom Function Point User Group (UFPGU, covering the MK11 method). An ISO standard for function point method is also being developed.

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Example: 4.1

Consider a project with the following functional units:

Number of user inputs   = 50

Number of user outputs   = 40

Number of user enquiries   = 35

Number of user files   = 06

Number of external interfaces   = 04

Assume all complexity adjustment factors and weighting factors are average. Compute the function points for the project.

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Solution

We know

$$UFP = \sum_{i=1}^{5} \sum_{J=1}^{3} Z_{ij} w_{ij}$$

UFP $= 50 \times 4 + 40 \times 5 + 35 \times 4 + 6 \times 10 + 4 \times 7$

$\qquad = 200 + 200 + 140 + 60 + 28 = 628$

CAF $= (0.65 + 0.01 \; \Sigma F_i)$

$\qquad = (0.65 + 0.01 \; (14 \times 3)) = 0.65 + 0.42 = 1.07$

FP $\quad =$ UFP $\times$ CAF

$\qquad = 628 \times 1.07 = 672$

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Example:4.2

An application has the following:

10 low external inputs, 12 high external outputs, 20 low internal logical files, 15 high external interface files, 12 average external inquiries, and a value of complexity adjustment factor of 1.10.

What are the unadjusted and adjusted function point counts ?

Solution

Unadjusted function point counts may be calculated using as:

$$UFP = \sum_{i=1}^{5} \sum_{J=1}^{3} Z_{ij} w_{ij}$$

$= 10 \times 3 + 12 \times 7 + 20 \times 7 + 15 + 10 + 12 \times 4$

$= 30 + 84 + 140 + 150 + 48$

$= 452$

FP $\quad = UFP \times CAF$

$\quad = 452 \times 1.10 = 497.2.$

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Example: 4.3

Consider a project with the following parameters.

- (*i*)   External Inputs:
  - (a) 10 with low complexity
  - (b) 15 with average complexity
  - (c) 17 with high complexity
- (*ii*) External Outputs:
  - (a) 6 with low complexity
  - (b) 13 with high complexity
- (*iii*) External Inquiries:
  - (a) 3 with low complexity
  - (b) 4 with average complexity
  - (c) 2 high complexity

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(*iv*) Internal logical files:

    (a) 2 with average complexity

    (b) 1 with high complexity

(v) External Interface files:

    (a) 9 with low complexity

In addition to above, system requires

    i. Significant data communication

    ii. Performance is very critical

    iii. Designed code may be moderately reusable

    iv. System is not designed for multiple installation in different organizations.

Other complexity adjustment factors are treated as average. Compute the function points for the project.

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Solution: Unadjusted function points may be counted using table 2

Functional Units	Count	Complexity		Complexity Totals	Functional Unit Totals
External Inputs (EIs)	10	Low x 3	=	30	
	15	Average x 4	=	60	
	17	High x 6	=	102	192
External Outputs (EOs)	6	Low x 4	=	24	
	0	Average x 5	=	0	
	13	High x 7	=	91	115
External Inquiries (EQs)	3	Low x 3	=	9	
	4	Average x 4	=	16	
	2	High x 6	=	12	37
External logical Files (ILFs)	0	Low x 7	=	0	
	2	Average x 10	=	20	
	1	High x 15	=	15	35
External Interface Files (EIFs)	9	Low x 5	=	45	
	0	Average x 7	=	0	
	0	High x 10	=	0	45
Total Unadjusted Function Point Count					424

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$$\sum_{i=1}^{14} F_i = 3+4+3+5+3+3+3+3+3+3+2+3+0+3=41$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{CAF} &= (0.65 + 0.01 \times \Sigma F_i) \\
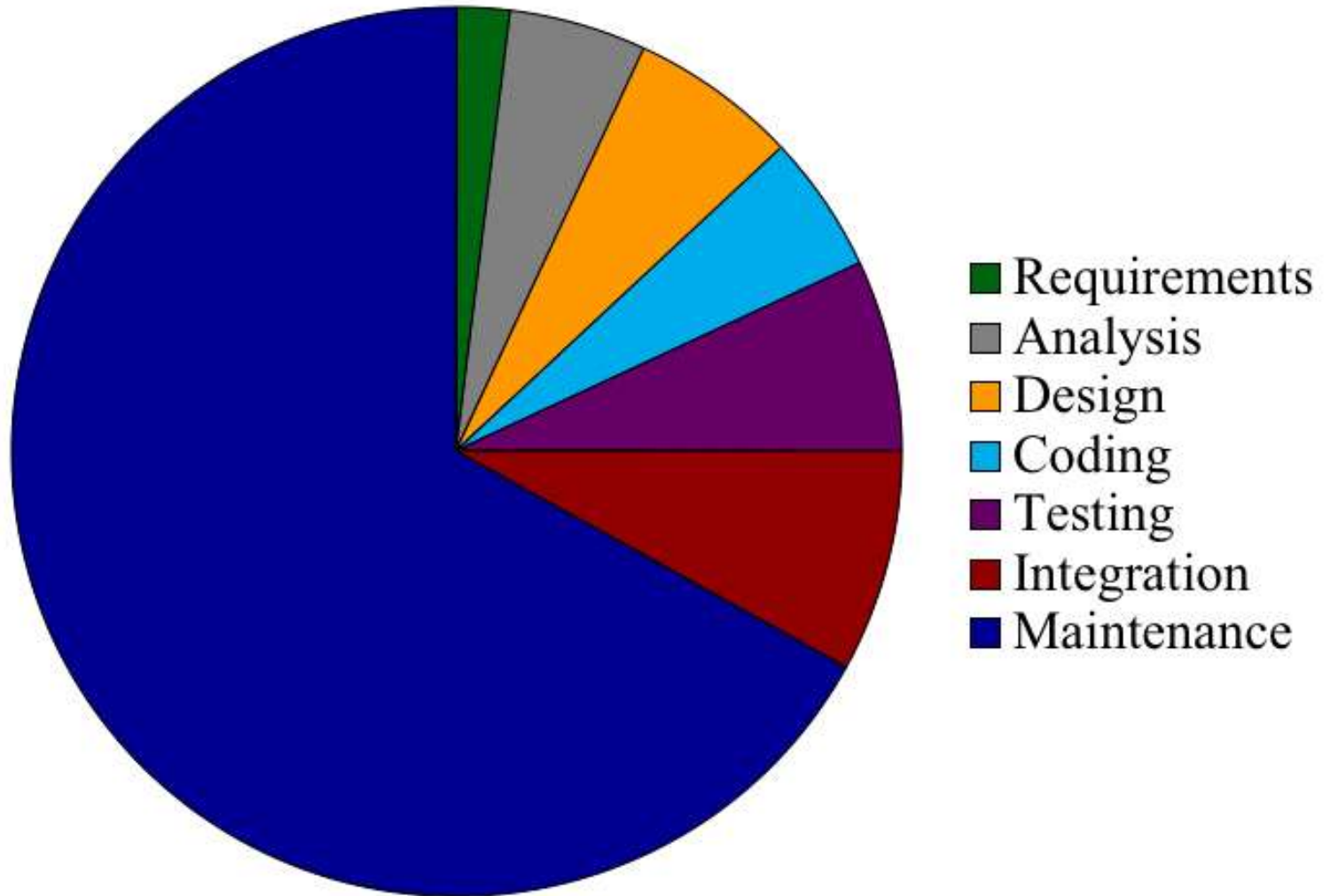&= (0.65 + 0.01 \times 41) \\
&= 1.06
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{FP} &= \text{UFP} \times \text{CAF} \\
&= 424 \times 1.06 \\
&= 449.44
\end{aligned}$$

Hence $\boxed{\text{FP} = 449}$
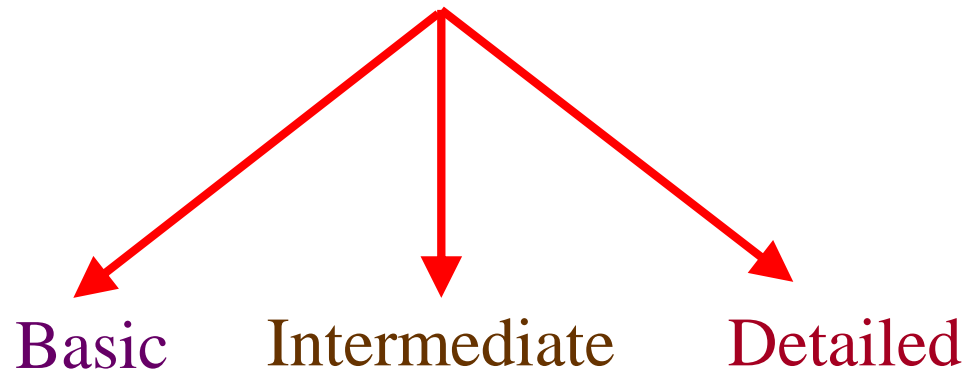
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Relative Cost of Software Phases

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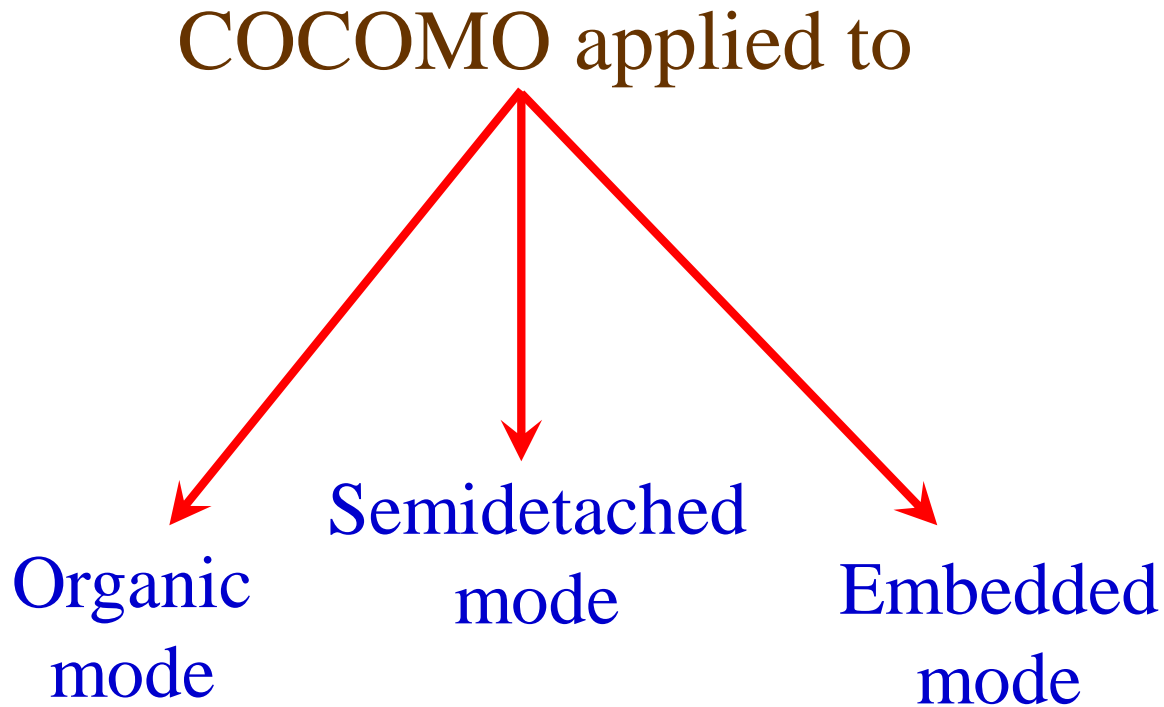
The Constructive Cost Model (COCOMO)

Constructive Cost model
(COCOMO)

Basic   Intermediate   Detailed

Model proposed by
B. W. Boehm's
through his book
Software Engineering Economics in 1981

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COCOMO applied to

Organic
mode

Semidetached
mode

Embedded
mode

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Mode	Project size	Nature of Project	Innovation	Deadline of the project	Development Environment
Organic	Typically 2-50 KLOC	Small size project, experienced developers in the familiar environment. For example, pay roll, inventory projects etc.	Little	Not tight	Familiar & In house
Semi detached	Typically 50-300 KLOC	Medium size project, Medium size team, Average previous experience on similar project. For example: Utility systems like compilers, database systems, editors etc.	Medium	Medium	Medium
Embedded	Typically over 300 KLOC	Large project, Real time systems, Complex interfaces, Very little previous experience. For example: ATMs, Air Traffic Control etc.	Significant	Tight	Complex Hardware/ customer Interfaces required

Table 4: The comparison of three COCOMO modes

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Basic Model

Basic COCOMO model takes the form

$$E = a_b (KLOC)^{b_b}$$

$$D = c_b (E)^{d_b}$$

where E is effort applied in Person-Months, and D is the development time in months. The coefficients a_b, b_b, c_b and d_b are given in table 4 (a).

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Software Project	a_b	b_b	c_b	d_b
Organic	2.4	1.05	2.5	0.38
Semidetached	3.0	1.12	2.5	0.35
Embedded	3.6	1.20	2.5	0.32

Table 4(a): Basic COCOMO coefficients

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When effort and development time are known, the average staff size to complete the project may be calculated as:

$$\text{Average staff size } (SS) = \frac{E}{D} \; Persons$$

When project size is known, the productivity level may be calculated as:

$$\text{Productivity } (P) = \frac{KLOC}{E} \; KLOC / PM$$

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Example: 4.5

Suppose that a project was estimated to be 400 KLOC. Calculate the effort and development time for each of the three modes i.e., organic, semidetached and embedded.

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Solution

The basic COCOMO equation take the form:

$$E = a_b (KLOC)^{b_b}$$

$$D = c_b (KLOC)^{d_b}$$

Estimated size of the project = 400 KLOC

(i) Organic mode

$$E = 2.4(400)^{1.05} = 1295.31 \text{ PM}$$

$$D = 2.5(1295.31)^{0.38} = 38.07 \text{ PM}$$

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(ii) Semidetached mode

$$E = 3.0(400)^{1.12} = 2462.79 \text{ PM}$$

$$D = 2.5(2462.79)^{0.35} = 38.45 \text{ PM}$$

(iii) Embedded mode

$$E = 3.6(400)^{1.20} = 4772.81 \text{ PM}$$

$$D = 2.5(4772.8)^{0.32} = 38 \text{ PM}$$

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Example: 4.6

A project size of 200 KLOC is to be developed. Software development team has average experience on similar type of projects. The project schedule is not very tight. Calculate the effort, development time, average staff size and productivity of the project.

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Solution

The semi-detached mode is the most appropriate mode; keeping in view the size, schedule and experience of the development team.

Hence $\quad E = 3.0(200)^{1.12} = 1133.12 \text{ PM}$

$\qquad D = 2.5(1133.12)^{0.35} = 29.3 \text{ PM}$

Average staff size $\ (SS) = \dfrac{E}{D} \ Persons$

$$= \frac{1133.12}{29.3} = 38.67 \, Persons$$

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$$\text{Productivity} = \frac{KLOC}{E} = \frac{200}{1133.12} = 0.1765 \, KLOC \, / \, PM$$

$$P = 176 \, LOC \, / \, PM$$

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Intermediate Model

Cost drivers

   (*i*)   Product Attributes

- Required s/w reliability

- Size of application database

- Complexity of the product

   (*ii*) Hardware Attributes

- Run time performance constraints

- Memory constraints

- Virtual machine volatility

- Turnaround time

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(*iii*) Personal Attributes

- ➢ Analyst capability
- ➢ Programmer capability
- ➢ Application experience
- ➢ Virtual m/c experience
- ➢ Programming language experience

(*iv*) Project Attributes

- ➢ Modern programming practices
- ➢ Use of software tools
- ➢ Required development Schedule

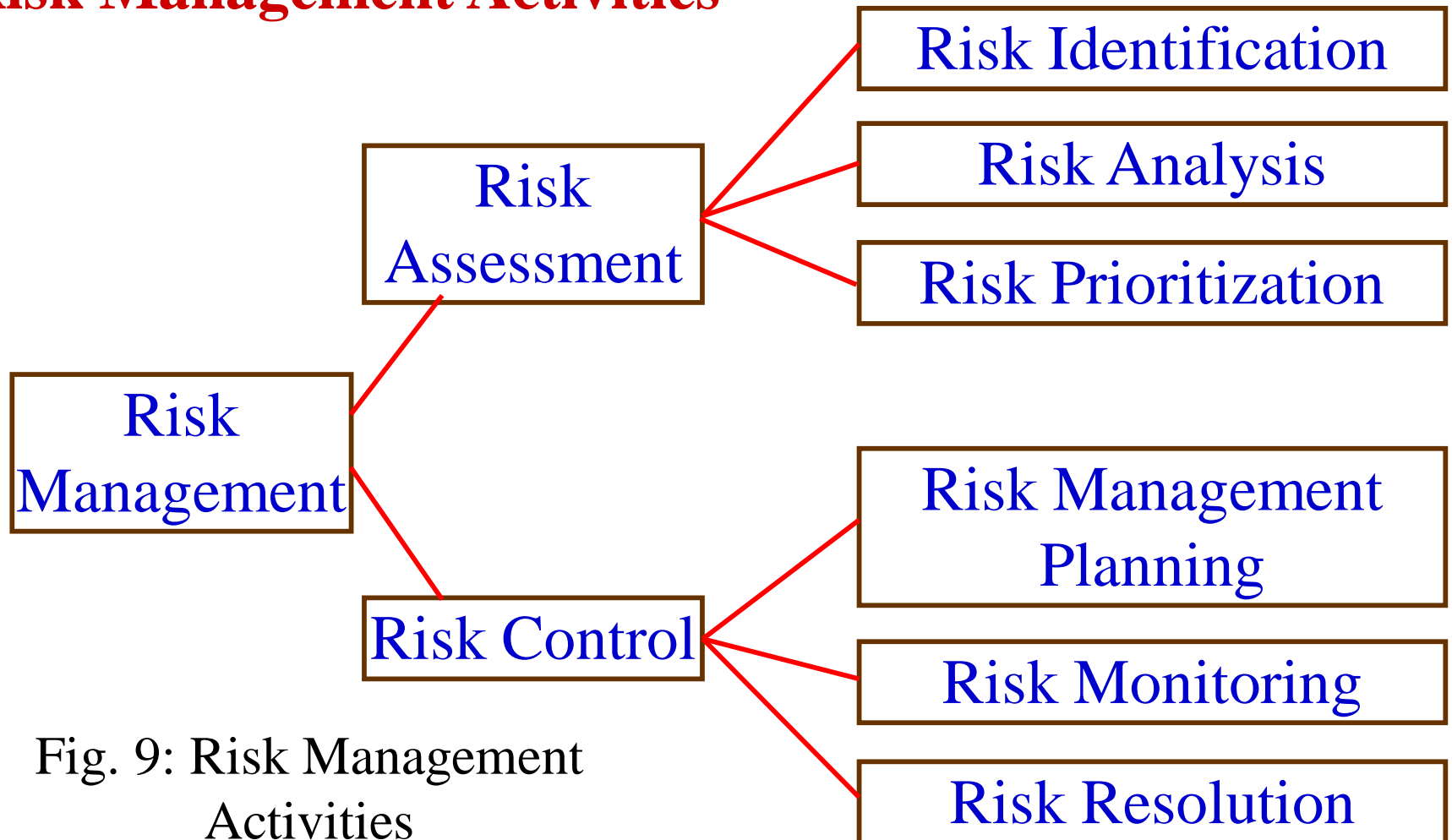## Risk Management Activities

Fig. 9: Risk Management Activities

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Risk Assessment

Identification of risks

Risk analysis involves examining how project outcomes might change with modification of risk input variables.

Risk prioritization focus for severe risks.

Risk exposure: It is the product of the probability of incurring a loss due to the risk and the potential magnitude of that loss.

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Another way of handling risk is the risk avoidance. Do not do the risky things! We may avoid risks by not undertaking certain projects, or by relying on proven rather than cutting edge technologies.

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Risk Control

Risk Management Planning produces a plan for dealing with each significant risks.

➢ Record decision in the plan.

Risk resolution is the execution of the plans of dealing   with each risk.