

Lecture 3 & 4:

Software Development Activities

- **Construction:** Requirements, Design, Coding, Testing
 - **Management:** Planning, Quality Assurance, Configuration, Installation
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Ad Hoc Development

- No structured plan or defined tasks/deliverables
- Risky: prone to delays, missed tasks, poor quality

Case Study (SaudiTech): Failed due to unrealistic budget and ad hoc approach.

→ **Solution:** Use **Software Process Models** for structured development

Software Process

Structured set of activities:

1. **Specification**
2. **Design & Implementation**
3. **Validation**
4. **Evolution**

Process models describe **what happens and in what order**.

Plan-driven vs. Agile

- **Plan-driven:** Fully planned up-front, fixed scope
 - **Agile:** Flexible, adaptive, iterative planning
 - Most real-world processes are a **mix** of both.
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Popular Software Process Models

1. **Waterfall Model**
 - Sequential stages: Requirements → Design → Implementation → Testing → Deployment → Maintenance
 - Works best when requirements are well-understood
 - **Pros:** Easy to manage, documented phases
 - **Cons:** Inflexible, poor with changing needs

2. V-Model (Verification & Validation)

- Each dev phase has a corresponding test phase
- Emphasizes early test planning
- **Pros:** Thorough validation, early error detection
- **Cons:** Poor with changing requirements

3. Evolutionary Models

- **Exploratory:** Start with known features, evolve with user input
- **Prototyping:** Build a prototype to refine user requirements
- **Pros:** Better understanding, early feedback
- **Cons:** Scope creep, poor structure

4. Component-Based Software Engineering (CBSE)

- Build systems by reusing existing components
- **Pros:** Faster, cheaper, lower risk
- **Cons:** Integration issues, limited flexibility

5. Incremental Model

- Build software in small, usable chunks (increments)
- Customer gets value early
- **Pros:** Early delivery, feedback loop, reduced risk
- **Cons:** Hard to slice system appropriately

6. Spiral Model

- Risk-driven, iterative model with phases: Planning → Risk Analysis → Development → Evaluation
- Each loop = 1 development phase
- **Pros:** Handles risk well, suitable for large projects
- **Cons:** Complex, expensive

Conclusion

- Ad hoc = dangerous.
- Process models help structure development.
- Choose model based on project size, risk, and clarity of requirements.