Life Cycle Models

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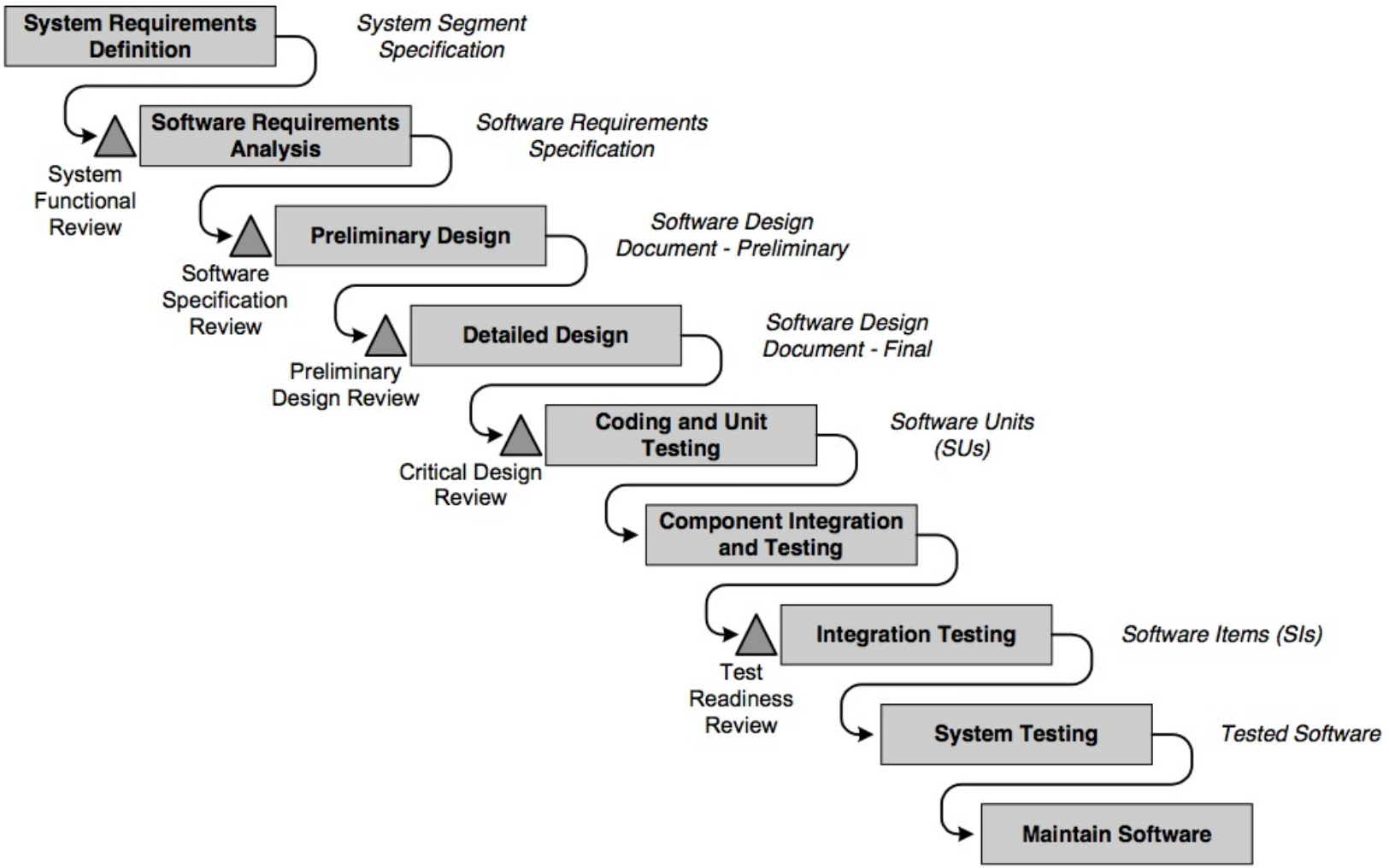
Software Life Cycle

The overall framework in which software is conceived, developed, and maintained.

- Life cycles are also referred to as *models*
- Phases: At its most basic, a life cycle includes:
  - Design
  - Development
  - Maintenance
- Classic life cycle models:
  - Waterfall model
  - Incremental model
  - Spiral model

Waterfall Model I



From the GSAM Handbook

Waterfall Model II

Characteristics

- First used on DoD projects in the 1970s
- Highly structured sequential development process
- Documentation-driven and document-intensive
- Initial phases document what must be done
- Later phases define how it should be done

Waterfall Model III

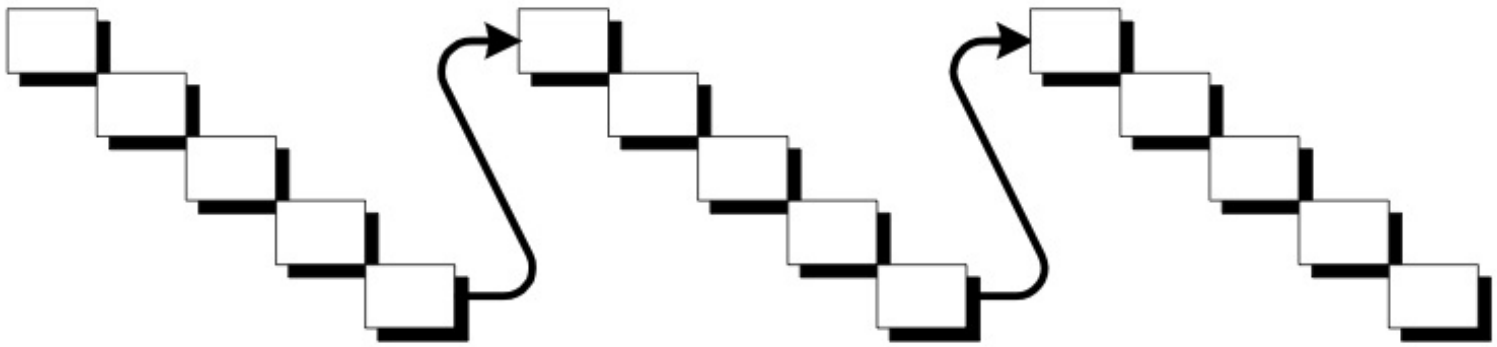
Advantages

- System is well documented
- Corresponding development and management phases
- Relatively accurate cost and schedule estimates

Disadvantages

- Risk dealt within a single cycle
- Local feedback between phase transitions only
- Working product available in the latter stages
- Progress and success hard to observe until later stages
- An early error may be discovered only after delivery
- Fixes must wait until maintenance

Incremental Model I



Iteration:

- Essentially a series of waterfall models
  - Generate release V_1, then revise and generate V_2, and so on.
  - Each successive release V_k is intended to be closer to its target than its predecessor
- Each release adds more functionality

Incremental Model II

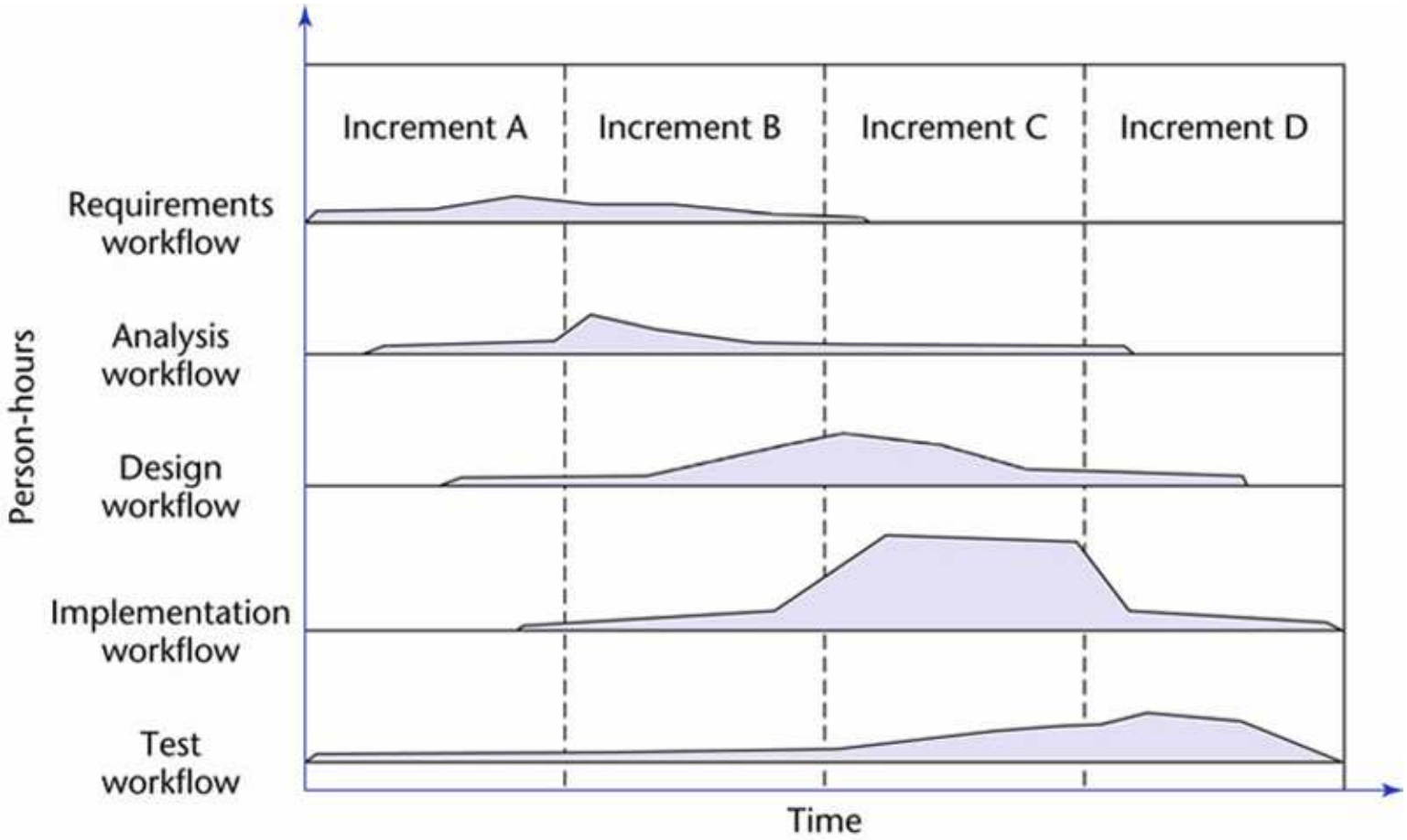
Advantages:

- Provides feedback from one cycle to the next
- Allows modification and addition of requirements
- More responsive to user needs
- Risk spread out over multiple cycles
- Testing may be easier on each iteration

Disadvantages:

- Many requirements still need to be know early
- Interface between cycles must be well defined
- Operations may be impacted as each release is deployed

Incremental Workflow Model I



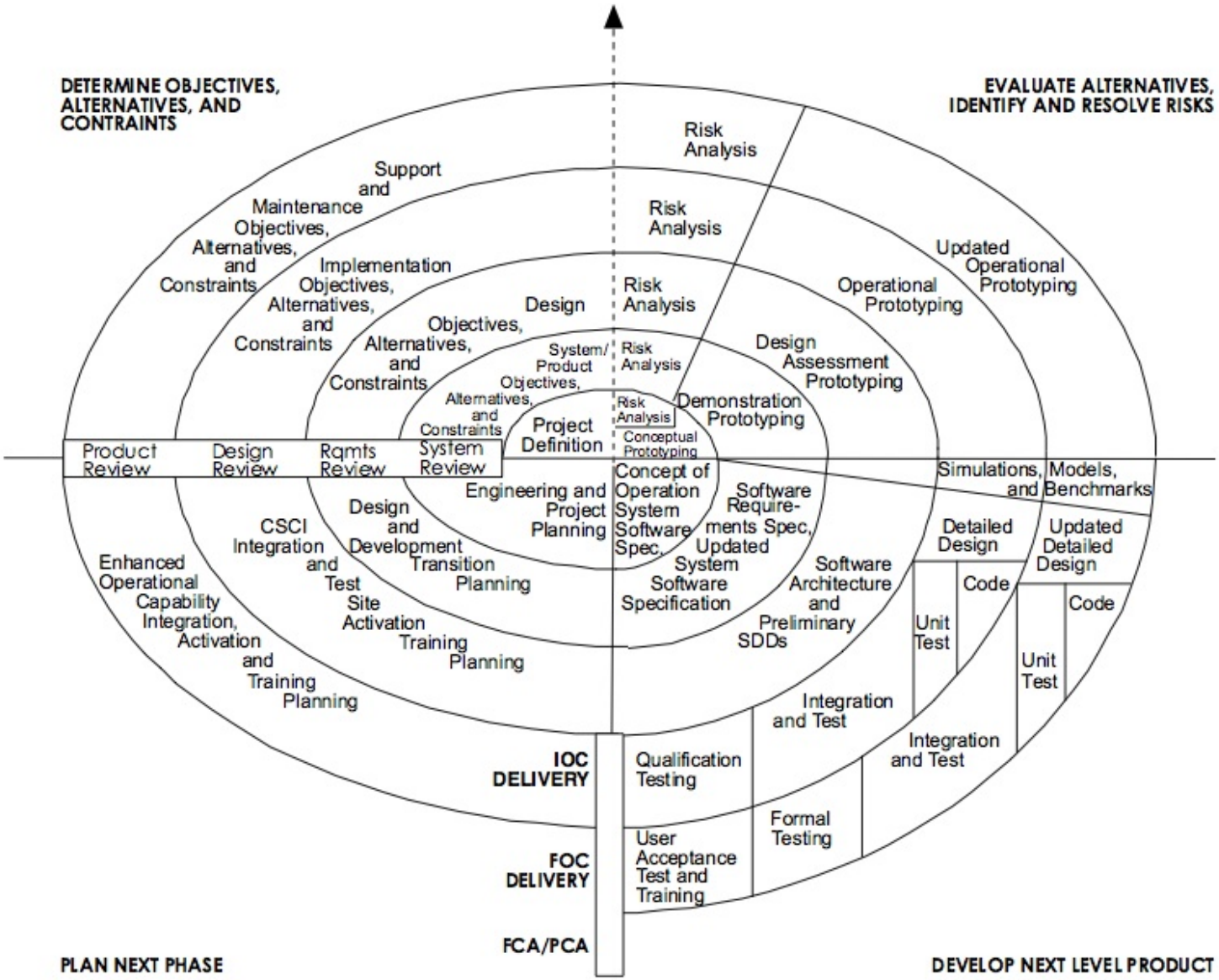
The area under the curves indicate effort spent for each workflow over many increments.

Incremental Workflow Model II

Characteristics

- five core workflows are performed over the entire life cycle
- At most times one workflow predominates
- Examples:
  - At the beginning, the requirements workflow predominates
  - At the end, the implementation and test workflows predominate
- Planning and documentation activities are (should be) performed throughout the life cycle

Spiral Model I



Spiral Model II

- Proposed by Boehm in 1988.
- Goal: minimizing risk
- Quadrants:
  - Determine objectives, alternatives, and constraints
  - Evaluate alternatives, identify, and resolve risks
  - Develop, verify next-level product
  - Plan the next phase
- If all risks cannot be mitigated, the project is immediately terminated

Spiral Model III

- Actions before each phase
  - Analyze alternatives
  - Risk analysis
- Actions after each phase
  - Evaluation
  - Planning of the next phase
- Radial dimension: cumulative cost to date
- Angular dimension: progress through development phases

Spiral Model IV

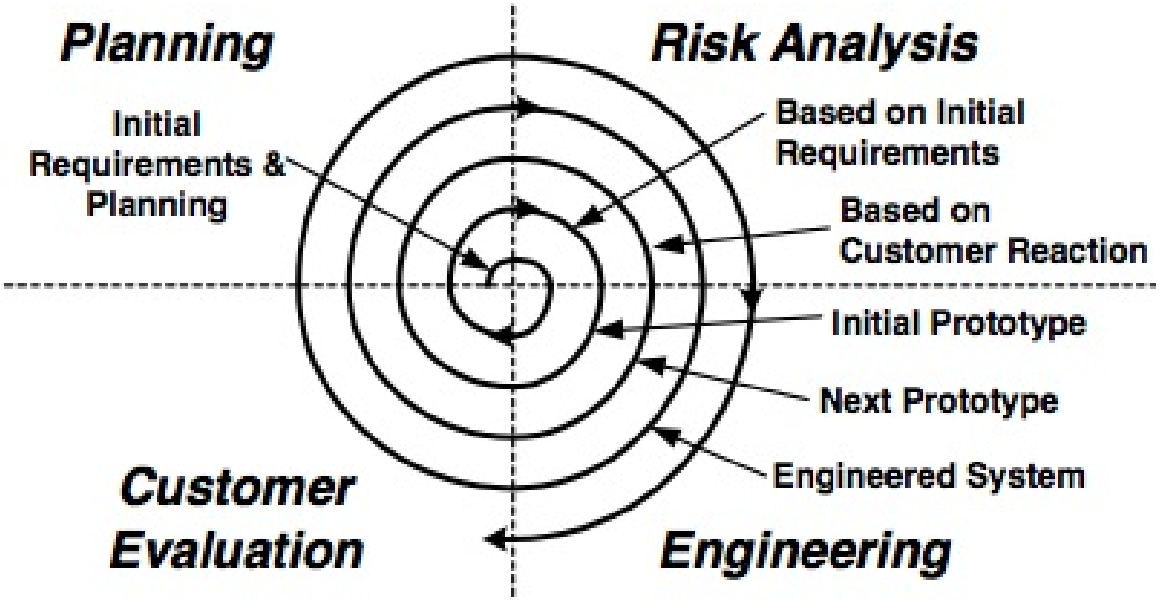
Advantages

- Provides better risk management than other models
- Requirements are better defined
- System is more responsive to user needs

Disadvantages

- More complex and harder to manage
- Usually increases development costs and schedule

Evolutionary or Prototyping Model I



Characteristics

- Develops a product in multiple cycles
- Produces a more refined prototype system at each iteration
- Specification, development and testing occur concurrently
- Design decisions made to get prototype working
- General requirements must be know early

Evolutionary or Prototyping Model II

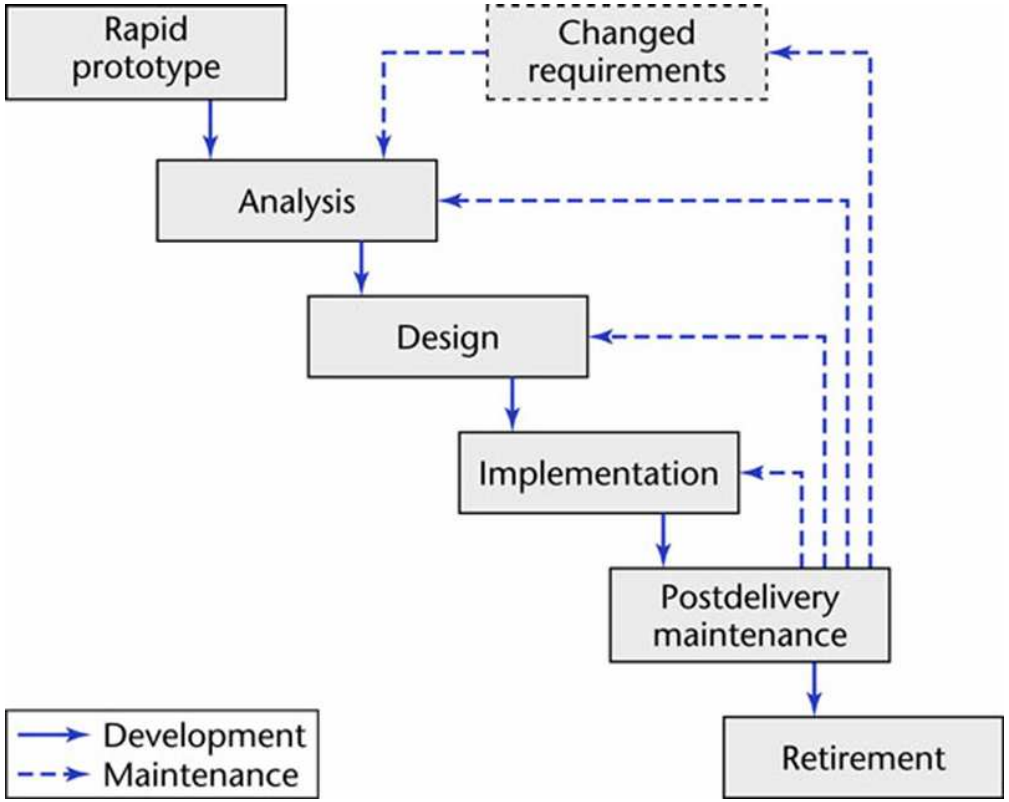
Advantages

- Project can begin without fully understanding requirements
- Final requirements are evolved
- Risk spread over various iterations
- Emphasis on early operational capability

Disadvantages

- Usually increased costs and schedule over waterfall
- Increased management
- Users can mistake a prototype for the final system
- Risk may be increased in various areas

Rapid Prototyping Model I



Rapid Prototyping Model II

Characteristics

- Early development of a working rapid prototype
- Interaction with client/users with rapid prototype to validate the product, i.e. determine whether product is what client wanted.

Rapid Prototyping Model III

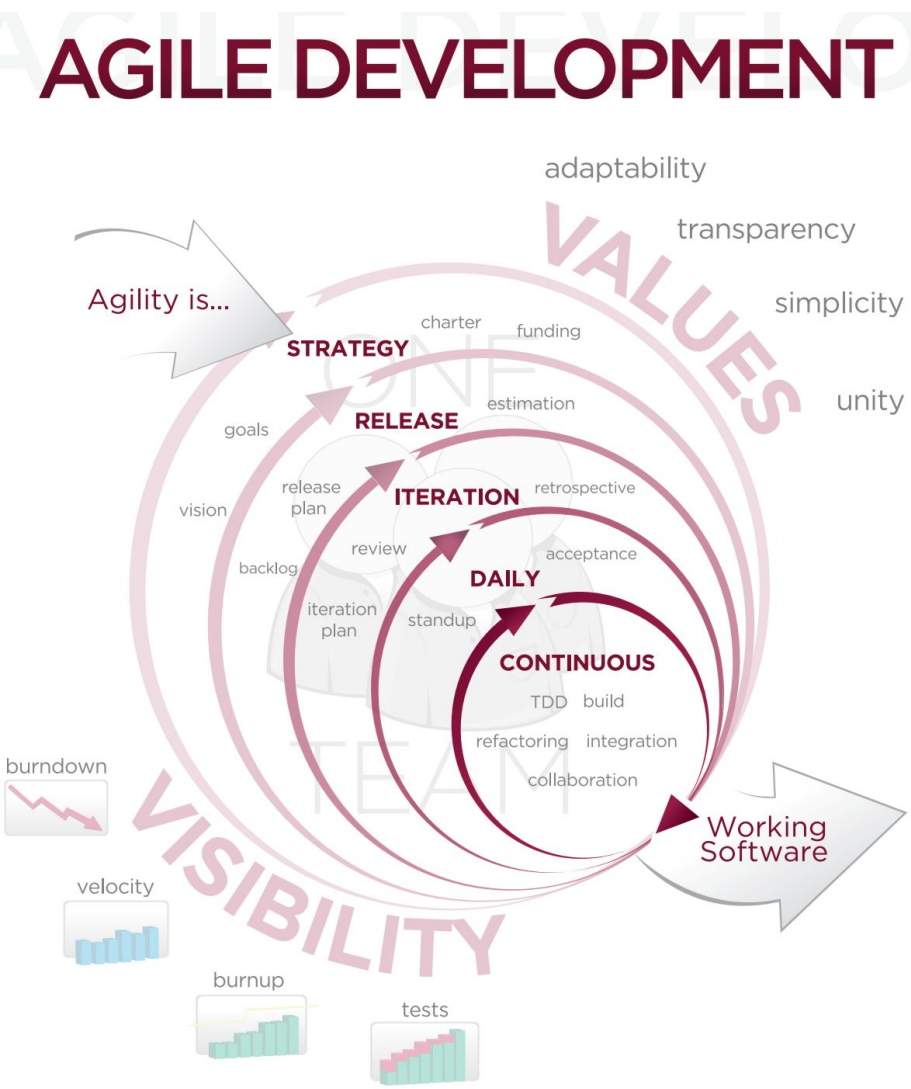
Advantages

- Rapid prototype used to generate the specification document
- Design phase aided by existence of the prototype
- Reduced effect of regression faults in implementation
- Development feedback loops less likely to be needed

Disadvantages

- Insufficient analysis can lead to improper solutions
- User confusion over prototype vs. final system
- Excessive development time of prototype
- Higher start up costs for building a development team

Agile Development Models I

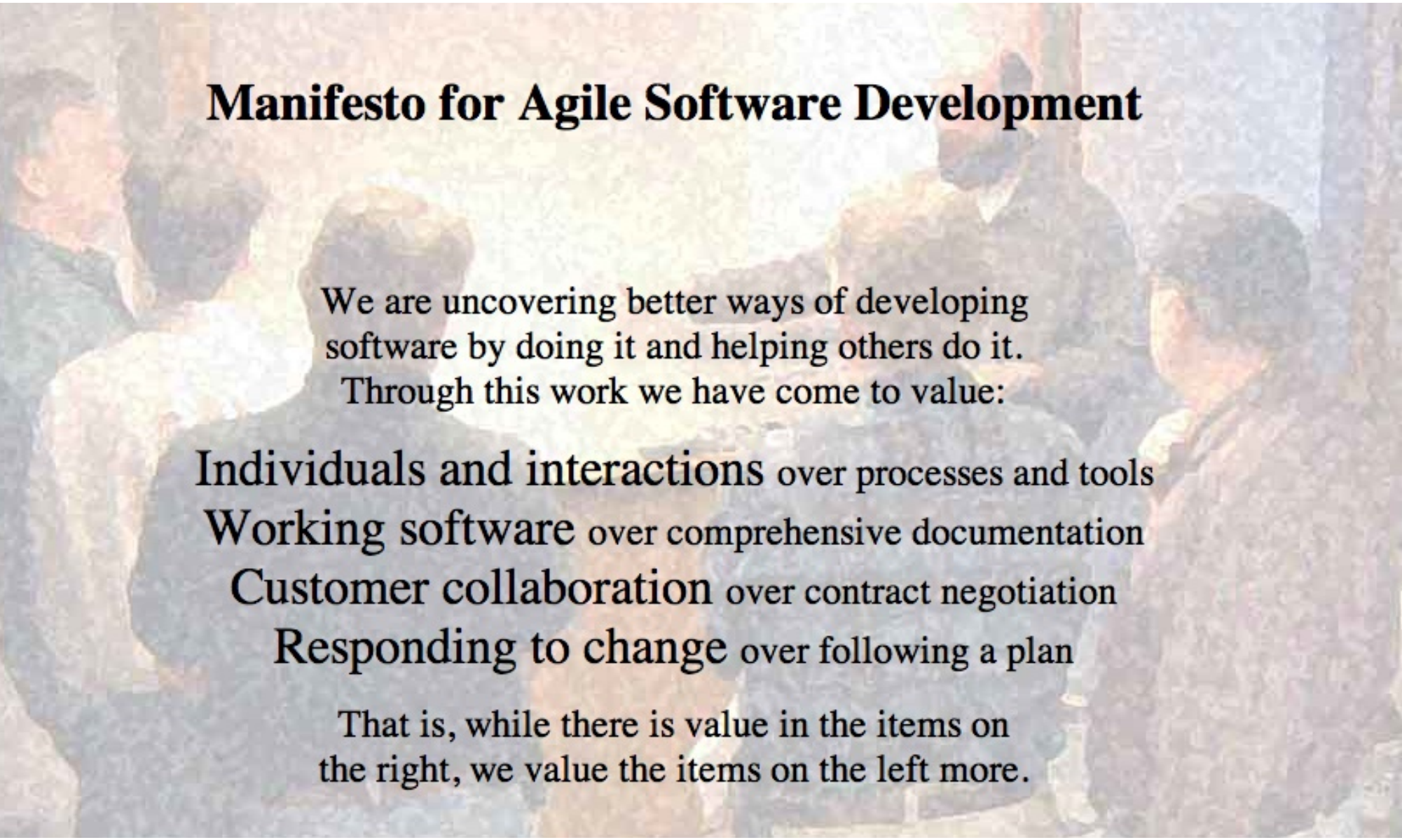


Agile Development Models II

Characteristics

- Based on iterative and incremental development
- Requirements and solutions evolve through self-organizing, cross-functional teams
- Defined in the Agile Manifesto published in 2001

Agile Development Models III



Agile Development Models IV

Twelve Principles

- Customer satisfaction by rapid delivery of useful software
- Welcome changing requirements, even late in development
- Working software is delivered frequently (weeks rather than months)
- Working software is the principal measure of progress
- Sustainable development, able to maintain a constant pace
- Close, daily co-operation between business people and developers
- Face-to-face conversation is the best form of communication (co-location)
- Projects are built around motivated individuals, who should be trusted
- Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design
- Simplicity
- Self-organizing teams
- Regular adaptation to changing circumstances

Extreme Programming I

Characteristics

- Created by Ken Beck in the mid 1990s
- Focuses on features or stories the client wants
- Estimate duration and cost of each story
- Test-driven development: Test cases for a task are drawn up first
- Pair programming: two programmers implement a task, ensuring test cases work correctly
- Task integration: tasks continuously integrated into current version
- The design is modified while the product is built – refactoring

Extreme Programming II

Advantages

- XP successful with small-scale software development
- Responsive to user needs
- Less emphasis on documentation

Disadvantages

- Lack of structure and necessary documentation
- May require major cultural shift to be adopted
- Scope creep – due to lack of detailed requirements
- Non-functional quality attributes are not user stories

SCRUM is an agile development framework, following many of the ideas in XP

Synchronize-and Stabilize Model - Microsoft I

- A version of the iterative and incremental model [Cusumano and Selby, 1997].
- Characteristics:
  - Requirements analysis: interview potential customers, extract key features of interest.
  - Draw up specifications.
  - Divide project into 3 or 4 builds by critical features
  - Each build is developed by small teams working in parallel
  - Synchronize at end of day: integrate partially completed components, test and debug
  - Stabilize at end of the build: maintenance, fix faults. Build is freezed.
- Requirements can be modified during course of a build.