Welcome to CSE 4407: System Analysis and Design

- Why
 - o Core for systems analysts, developers, and managers
 - Business Problems ↔ Technical Solutions
 - · Leads to clearer requirements, defined scope, fewer reworks
- Your Role: Systems "Architect"
 - Plan before you build: know users and environment
 - Define requirements precisely
 - Ensure solutions fit real-world needs
- Course Roadmap
 - Systems Analysis Fundamentals
 - o Information Requirement Analysis
 - The Analysis Process
 - The Essentials of Design

Course Logistics

- Google Classroom Code
 - Theory: caqarlqw
 - Lab: ad22vdpj
- Communication
 - Discussion in Google Classroom
 - o Email: cse.bakhtiarhasan@iut-dhaka.edu
- Book: Kendall and Kendall, Systems Analysis and Design, 10th Edition
- Grading Policy
 - Attendance (10%)
 - Quiz (15%)
 - Mid Semester (25%)
 - Semester Final (50%)
- Academic Integrity Policy: Do not submit others' work as yours

Systems, Roles, and Development Methodologies CSE 4407

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Introduction

- Opening thought
 - o Information is now a key organizational resource, just like people or materials.
 - It needs management
- The Information Explosion: Networked computers and the web have amplified the amount and complexity of information we handle
- Chapter Goals: We will explore
 - Fundamentals of Information Systems (IS)
 - Roles of Systems Analysts
 - o Development Lifecycles (SDLC, Agile, O-O)
 - Open Source and CASE Tools

OVERVIEW (4/43)

Why Bother with Systems Analysis and Design (SAD)?

- What: A systematic way to
 - o Understand user needs
 - Analyze data input/flow
 - Analyze data processing/transformation
 - Analyze data storage
 - Analyze information output
 - (All within an organizational context)
- Primary Goal
 - Identify and solve the RIGHT problem
 - Analyze, design, and implement **improvements** to computerized information systems
- Analogy: Doctor diagnosing a patient

The Cost of Chaos vs. The Value of Structure

• Why SAD is CRITICAL

- Avoid Disaster: Prevents user dissatisfaction and systems falling into disuse (Shelfware)
- Manages Complexity and Cost: Provides structure to what can be a very expensive and complicated endeavor
- Business Improvement: Aims to enhance the business using computerized information systems
- Collaboration is Key: User involvement throughout the project is non-negotiable for success!
- Global Teams: Emphasis on user interaction is even more critical with international development teams

Security and Privacy: Not Just an Add-On!

- The Reality
 - Security is critical but challenging
 - Multiple vulnerabilities exist in any system
 - o "Perfect" security is unrealistic it involves trade-offs (value of data vs. risk vs. cost)
- The SAD Approach: Security by Design
 - Build security and privacy controls in from the VERY BEGINNING
 - Much more effective and desirable than trying to patch security onto older systems (legacy systems)
 - Always assess and improve security when updating existing systems
 - User training on security is also crucial

The Systems Analyst: Bridging Worlds

- Who: Someone who systematically assesses
 - How users interact with technology
 - How businesses function
 - (By examining data input, processing, output, and information flow)
- Intent: To improve organizational processes, often using computerized IS
- Key Characteristics
 - Works with diverse people
 - Experienced with computers and technology
 - o Often balances multiple roles simultaneously

The Analysts Wears Many Hats...

- Primary Role 1: The Consultant
 - o Often an external hire
 - Pros: Brings a fresh, objective perspective
 - Cons: Lacks deep knowledge of internal organizational culture/politics
 - Relies on: Systematic methods (like those in this course!) and user input
- Primary Role 2: The Supporting Expert
 - Usually an internal employee (part of the organization)
 - o Draws on specific technical expertise (HW, SW, databases, etc.)
 - o Often involved in smaller modifications, decisions, or specific parts of a larger project
 - Acts as a resource for project managers, not the manager

... Agent of Change and Essential Qualities

- Primary Role 3: The Agent of Change
 - The most **comprehensive** and responsible role
 - Can be internal or external
 - Involved throughout the Systems Development Life Cycle (SDLC) (often long-term: weeks to years)
 - Their mere **presence** and activities **change** the business
 - Must work closely with users/management from Day 1
- What Makes a GREAT Systems Analyst?
 - Problem Solver: Enjoys challenges, finds workable solutions (The Core!)
 - Communicator: Relates meaningfully to diverse people over time. Understands human needs with tech (HCI). Bridges gap to developers
 - Self-Disciplined and Motivated: Manages self, coordinates people, handles resources
 - Ethical: Acts with integrity, especially with sensitive info and client relationships
 - o Technically Adept and Business Savvy: Understands both sides

The Traditional Blueprint: Systems Development Life Cycle (SDLC)

- What: A phased approach to systems analysis and design
- Assumption: Systems are best developed using a specific cycle of analyst and user activities
- Common Analogy: The "Waterfall" Method
 - Phases flow sequentially downwards, like water over falls
 - (PMI calls this a "Predictive" life cycle) [1]

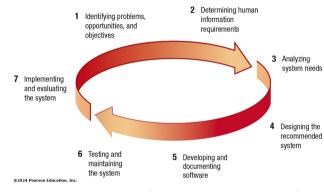


Figure. The 7 Phases (Kendall and Kendall Model)

SDLC Phase 1: Where Do We Start?

- Main Goal: Correctly identify the core Problems, Opportunities, and Objectives
- Why: Getting this wrong means wasting significant time and resources solving the wrong issue!
- Activities
 - Honestly assess the current business situation
 - Pinpoint specific problems (often the reason the analyst was called in)
 - Identify opportunities (situations where IT can provide improvement or competitive advantage)
 - Discover and define clear business objectives
- Who's Involved: Users (especially management), Analysts, Systems Managers
- Key Output: Feasibility Report (Defines problem, summarizes objectives, initial scope estimate, recommends Go/No-Go)

SDLC Phase 2: Understanding Users and Their Needs

- Main Goal: Determine human needs regarding the information system. How do users need to interact?
- Methods for Gathering Info
 - o Interactive: Interviews, Questionnaires, Sampling data
 - Unobtrusive: Observing users work, analyzing existing documents ("hard data")
 - All-encompassing: Prototyping (building preliminary versions)
- Focus: Human-Computer Interaction (HCI)
 - Physical aspects? (Legible, audible, safe?)
 - Cognitive aspects? (Easy to learn, use, remember?)
 - Affective aspects? (Pleasing, engaging, fun?)
 - o Productivity? (Support tasks, enable new capabilities?)
- Key Framework: Understand the Who, What, Where, When, How of current processes, and Critically: WHY?
- Who's Involved: Analysts, Users (Operational level often)

SDLC Phase 3: Analyzing System Needs

- Main Goal: Analyze the information gathered in Phase 2 to determine system requirements
- Key Tools and Technologies
 - Process Modeling: How data moves and transforms
 - Data Flow Diagrams
 - Activity Diagrams/Sequence Diagrams
 - Data Modeling: What data is needed?
 - Data Dictionary
 - Logic/Decision Modeling: How are decisions made?
 - Structured English
 - Decision Tables
 - Decision Trees
- Key Output: Systems Proposal (Summarized findings from Phase 1 and 2, includes Cost-Benefit Analysis, provides specific recommendations for the new system)
- Who's Involved: Analyst

SDLC Phase 4: Blueprinting the Solution - The Logical Design

- Main Goal: Use the requirements from Phase 3 to design the logical structure of the new system
- Key Design Activities
 - Input Design: Designing procedures, forms, screens for accurate and efficient data entry
 - Interface Design: Defining how the user interacts with the system (menu, GUI, navigation). Focus on usability, accessibility (audible, legible, safe), aesthetics. User involvement is crucial here.
 - Database Design: Designing the logical structure of the database to store data effectively and intuitively
 - Output Design: Designing reports, screen displays, etc. to deliver the needed information effectively
- Who's Involved: Analyst (leading design), often working closely with Users (especially for UI/Output)

SDLC Phases 5 and 6: Construction and Quality Checks

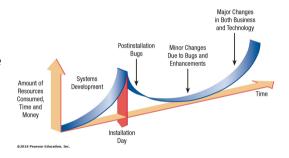
- Phase 5: Developing and Documenting Software
 - Analyst works with coders/developers
 - Activities
 - Develop/Code the actual software components
 - Create Documentation (User Manuals, Online Help, FAQs, Technical Docs) Should reflect user needs identified earlier!
 - Quality: Code walkthroughs/reviews
- Phase 6: Testing and Maintaining the System
 - Goal: Find errors BEFORE the system goes live (much cheaper!)
 - Activities
 - Conduct various tests (unit, integration, system)
 - Use test data, then actual (anonymized) data
 - Follow pre-defined Test Plans
 - Begin System Maintenance activities and documentation updates
 - Who's Involved: Analysts, Coders/Developers, Testers, Users (for User Acceptance Testing - UAT)

SDLC Phase 7: Go Live and Look Back!

- Implementation Activities
 - User Training: Teaching users how to operate the new system (Analyst oversees)
 - System Conversion: Planning and executing the switch from the old system to the new one (e.g., parallel run, direct cutover, phased)
 - Data Conversion: Migrating data from old formats/systems
 - Installation: Setting up hardware, software
 - o Go Live: The new system is officially launched!
- Evaluation
 - Occurs throughout the SDLC, not just a final step
 - Continues after implementation
 - Key Question: Is the system meeting objectives? Are users using it **effectively**?
- Reality Check: SDLC is often Cyclical. Discoveries might force revisiting earlier phases

After Launch: The Ongoing Cost and Effort of Maintenance

- The Reality: Maintenance consumes a significant portion of IT time and budget (Estimates range widely, but often > 50%!)
- Why Maintain Systems?
 - Correct Errors: Fixing bugs missed during testing
 - Enhancements: Adapting the software due to:
 - New User Requests (after using the system)
 - Changes in the Business **Environment**
 - Changes in Technology
 - (Hardware/Software updates)



 Implication: Eventually, the cost of maintaining an old system outweighs the cost of developing a new one

Boosting Analyst Productivity: CASE Tools

- What: Computer-Aided Software Engineering Tools
- Purpose: To improve and automate tasks performed by Systems Analysts, especially those using structured methods like SDLC
- Key Benefits
 - Increased Productivity: Automates repetitive tasks (drawing diagrams, checking consistency)
 - Improved Communication: Visual models are easier for users to understand than text.
 Facilitates feedback.
 - Integration: Links different phases and outputs of the SDLC together
- Core Concept: The CASE Repository
 - A central encyclopedia storing all project information (diagrams, data definitions, screen/report layouts, project management details, etc.)
 - Enables consistency checks and report generation
- Example: Visible Analyst (Full CASE) vs. Microsoft Visio/OmniGraffle (Primarily Diagramming Tools)

Beyond the Waterfall: The Agile Approach

- What: A software development methodology based on:
 - o Values: (Communication, Simplicity, Feedback, Courage) Good advice for ANY project!
 - Principles
 - Core Practices
- Underlying Idea: An outgrowth of Object-Oriented Approaches
- Alternative/Supplement to SDLC: Used when flexibility is key, or traditional methods haven't fit
- PMI Terminology: An "Adaptive" Lifecycle (vs. SDLC's "Predictive") [1]
- Key Characteristics: Highly Interactive (constant communication) and Incremental (building in small pieces)

THE AGILE APPROACH

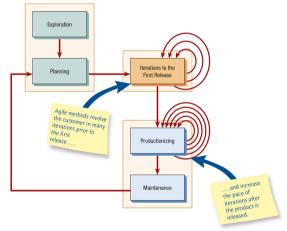
Agile in Practice: Flexibility and Teamwork

- Dynamic Resource Balancing: Agile methods often adjust Time, Cost, Quality, and Scope to meet goals
- Core Practices
 - Short Release Cycles
 - Sustainable Pace (e.g., 40-hour work week)
 - Onsite Customer (Direct, continuous user involvement)
 - Pair Programming
- Popular Agile Framework: Scrum
 - Named after a rugby formation (emphasizes teamwork)
 - Sprints: Short, fixed-duration work cycles (typically 2-4 weeks)
 - o Goal per Sprint: Deliver a potentially releasable increment of the product
 - Team Empowerment: Teams often choose how to accomplish the work for a sprint

THE AGILE APPROACH

The Agile Journey: 5 Key Stages

- Overall Process: Characterized by frequent iterations and feedback loops
- Interesting Loops!
 - Iterations Loops and Maintenance to Planning Loops → Adaptive, incremental nature
 - Productionizing →
 Increased pace of iteration after the initial release



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Getting Started with Agile: Exploration and Planning

- Stage 1: Exploration (Duration: Weeks to Months)
 - Goal: Understand the landscape; Confirm Agile is suitable
 - Activities: Assemble team and assess skills, Investigate potential technologies, Practice estimating task effort, Customers practice writing User Stories (informal feature descriptions)
 - Mindset: Be Playful, Curious!
- Stage 2: Planning (Duration: Typically Days!)
 - Goal: Agree on initial scope for the first major release and target date (e.g., 2-6 months out)
 - Focus: Tackle the smallest set of the most valuable features first
 - Uses "Planning Game" Metaphor (from Extreme Programming [2])
 - Goal: Maximize delivered Business Value
 - Strategy: Limit risk (simple design, early feedback, adapt quickly)
 - Pieces: User Story cards (features, notes, tracking)
 - Players: Development Team + Business Customer (sets priorities!)

THE AGILE APPROACH (23/43)

The Cycle: Iterate, Produce, Maintain

- Stage 3: Iterations to First Releases (Cycles: ~3 weeks each)
 - Activities: Build selected features, Run customer tests frequently, Get feedback and adapt, Sketch out/refine system architecture incrementally
 - Important: Celebrate successful iterations (motivates!)
- Stage 4: Productionizing (Cycles: Faster, e.g., ~1 week)
 - Activities: Release the product! Implement faster feedback cycles (daily meeting?),
 Continue adding features based on feedback
 - Important: Celebrate the release (Development should be fun!)
- Stage 5: Maintenance
 - Activities: Keep the released system running smoothly, Continue adding new features (possibly riskier ones now), Adapt to changing needs, Rotate team members as needed
 - Mindset: Shifts to more Conservative ("Keeper of the flame") while still evolving

THE AGILE APPROACH

Thinking in Objects: Object-Oriented Analysis and Design

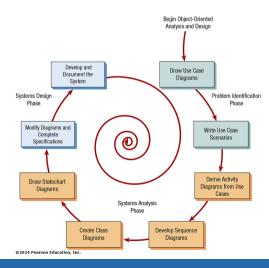
- What: An approach focused on Objects (representing real things/events like Customers, Orders, Products) grouped into Classes (defining shared attributes/behaviors)
 - Attributes: Characteristics
 - Methods: Things they do
- Contrast: Differs from traditional procedural programming (which focused on functions/procedures)
- Goal: Facilitate development and maintenance of systems needing **rapid change** and continuous adaptation, especially complex ones
- Key Benefit: Promotes reuse of components and improves system maintainability
- Standard Tool: Uses Unified Modeling Language (UML) for modeling O-O systems (e.g., Use Case Models)

O-O: Similar Phases, Different Rhythm

- Similarities to SDLC
 - Follows similar high-level phases (Problem Identification, Analysis, Design)
 - Uses rigorous, detailed modeling (UML)
- Pace: Because of the detailed modeling, the pace is often more deliberate than Agile (similar to SDLC in rigor)
- Key Difference: Iterative Nature within Phases
 - Often uses a **Spiral Model** approach:
 - Analyze \rightarrow Design \rightarrow Implement a small part of the system (e.g., a key feature)
 - Repeat (spiral outwards) for the next part
 - Reworking diagrams and components based on learning is expected and normal

The O-O Workflow with UML

- Understand user interactions
- Model the dynamic behavior
- Define the static structure
- Handle objects with complex lifecycle
- Refine and create detailed specifications
- Develop the system



O-O Steps 1 and 2: Understanding Interactions

- Step 1: Define Use Case Model (Problem ID/Analysis)
 - Identify Actors (Users or other systems interacting with our system)
 - Identify Major Events/Use Cases (What actors accomplish, e..g, "Place Order," "Register User")
 - Draw Use Case Diagrams: Visual map of actors and their use cases
 - Write Use Case Scenarios: Textual step-by-step description of a typical interaction
- Step 2: Draw Initial UML Diagrams (Analysis)
 - Draw Activity Diagrams: Show workflow/steps within a single use case
 - Draw Sequence Diagrams: Show how different objects interact over time to fulfill a use case
- Iterative Nature: Creating Activity/Sequence diagrams often reveals need to refine/clarify Use Cases

O-O Steps 3 and 4: Classes and States

- Step 3: Develop Class Diagrams (Analysis)
 - Identify potential Classes (Tip: Look for important nouns in Use Cases and requirements
 - Define Attributes (data held by objects of the class) and Methods (actions objects can perform)
 - Show Relationships between classes (e.g., A Customer has Orders)
 - This defines the static structure (blueprint) of the system
- Step 4: Draw Statechart Diagrams (Analysis)
 - Model objects with complex lifecycles or states
 - Show possible states an object can be in (e.g., Order: Pending, Paid, Shipped)
 - Show transitions between states and the events triggering them
 - Helps refine understanding of object behavior and Class diagrams
- Iterative nature: Discoveries here can lead to refinement of other diagrams

O-O Steps 5 and 6: Refining Design and Building

- Step 5: Modify Diagrams and Complete Specifications (Design)
 - Refine UML diagrams (Class, Sequence, etc.) based on specific design decisions (technology choices, patterns, optimizations)
 - Write detailed Class Specifications: Precise descriptions of attributes, methods
 - Write detailed Method Specifications: Define input/output, internal processing logic for each method
- Step 6: Develop and Document the System (Development)
 - Translate the detailed models and specifications into working code
 - Documentation is CRITICAL: UML diagrams + Specifications are vital guides for the development team
 - Good models and docs lead to faster development and more robust system

Common Ground: More Similar Than Different?

- Shared Foundations (ALL Approaches Require)
 - \circ Understanding the Organization: Business context, goals, problems \to Chapter 2
 - \circ Project Planning: Budgeting time and resources, Project Proposal \to Chapter 3
 - $\circ\,$ Detailed Data Gathering: Interviews, Questionnaires, Observation, Sampling $\to\,$ Chapter 4 and 5
- Overlapping Characteristics
 - SDLC and O-O: Emphasis on detailed planning and diagramming
 - Agile and O-O: Facilitate building systems incrementally or subsystem-by-subsystem
 - o Agile and SDLC: Consider the logical flow of data
- Key Takeaway: Strong foundational analysis skills (understanding needs, gathering data, planning) are essential regardless of the methodology used!

Making the Choice (1/3): When to Use SDLC?

- Consider the SDLC (Waterfall/Predictive) when
 - The organization has a history of using SDLC; existing systems used it (consistency)
 - Rigorous, step-by-step documentation is a high priority or requirement (e.g., compliance, regulation)
 - Upper management strongly prefers or feels more comfortable with a detailed, upfront plan and predictable phases
 - Sufficient time and resources are confidently available to complete the full cycle thoroughly
 - Formal documentation is the primary means required for communicating how the new system operates to stakeholders

Making the Choice (2/3): When to Use Agile?

- Consider Agile Methodologies (Adaptive/Iterative) when
 - An influential project champion who understands and advocates for Agile exists within the organization
 - The business environment is dynamic and requirements are likely to change or evolve rapidly. Need for speed
 - It's a project rescue situation need to deliver value quickly, less focus on analyzing past failures in detail
 - The customer/users understand and value receiving working software in small and incremental improvements
 - Executives, analysts, and the development team are aligned with and support Agile principles (collaboration, adaptation, etc.)

Making the Choice (3/3): When to Use O-O?

- Consider Object-Oriented Analysis and Design when
 - The problem domain naturally lends itself to modeling with Classes and Objects (e.g., complex entities, simulations)
 - The organization supports the team in learning and effectively using UML modeling tools and techniques
 - The system can be realistically developed incrementally, perhaps one subsystem or major feature set at a time
 - There is a strong possibility or goal of achieving significant code/component reuse
 - It's acceptable (or desirable, e.g., for risk mitigation) to tackle the most difficult or complex parts first (aligns with spiral thinking)

Beyond Proprietary: Open Source Software (OSS)

- What: Software where the source code is publicly available for anyone to study, share, and modify
- Contrast: Opposite to **proprietary** software (where source code is hidden/secret)
- Core Principles: Collaboration, Shared contribution and benefits, Modifications typically shared back, Adherence to specific open source licenses
- Philosophy: Often viewed as a communal process and product, sometimes aimed at broader societal benefit
- Examples: Linux, Android, Apache Web Server, Mozilla Firefox Browser
- Growing Importance In: Cloud Computing, Big Data Analytics, AI/Machine Learning, Internet of Things (IoT), Cybersecurity, Blockchain

The OSS Ecosystem: Communities and Platforms

- Diverse Communities: OSS isn't one entity; communities vary (e.g., based on goals, structure: ad hoc, standardized, organized, commercial)
- Supporting Foundations: Provide crucial infrastructure, governance, legal support, event organization
 - Example: The Apache Software Foundation, The Linux Foundation (hosts 1000s of projects)
- Key Development Platform: GitHub (Owned by Microsoft)
 - Provides: Code hosting (using Git), Collaboration tools, Issue tracking, Developer profiles and networking
- Underlying Technology: Git
 - The most widely used open source version control system. Essential for tracking changes to code files over time, especially in collaborative projects

Bridging Worlds: Corporations and OSS

- Historical Divide
 - Corporations → Proprietary code (Guarded for competitive advantage)
 - \circ OSS Communities \rightarrow **Shared** code and community values
- The Modern Reality: Collaboration
 - Companies increasingly participate in and contribute to OSS
- "The Third Design Space" [3]
 - A metaphorical space where corporate developers and community developers collaborate
 - Creates: New shared design environments, resources, associations
 - Results In: Innovative shared software, new development processes (blending corporate needs and community practices), developers skilled in both worlds
 - Enables: Innovations potentially not achievable in purely commercial or purely community settings alone

Corporate Motivations: Why Participate in OSS?

- Research identified multiple drivers [4]
- Rational Reasons (Business Logic)
 - Save Money/Reduce Development Cost (Leverage existing code)
 - Less Maintenance Burden (Shared effort)
 - Contribute Within Limits (Influence project direction strategically)
 - Reduce Long-Term Costs
 - Marketing Benefits (Enhanced reputation, attract talent)
 - make the First Move (Gain strategic advantage)

- Emotional Reasons (Cultural/Intrinsic)
 - Accept Responsibility/Give Back to community
 - Improve Shared Software (Make tools they rely on better)
 - Gain Community Influence/Respect
 - Relinquish Traditional Gatekeeper Role (Embrace openness)
 - Improve Developer's Skills and Morale (Exposure, learning)
 - Extend Life/Relevance of Internal Projects

The Rules of the Road: OSS Licensing and Compliance

- Licenses are CRITICAL: They define permissions, obligations, and restrictions for using, modifying, and distributing OSS code
- Community Consensus: Licenses arise from and are chosen by specific OSS communities
- Popular Examples: Apache Licence 2.0, GNU General Public License (GPL v2, v3, LGPL), MIT License, BSD Licenses, Mozilla Public License 2.0
- Your Responsibility: When *using* OSS components, you **must** identify their licenses and **ensure compliance**. Failure can have legal consequences!
- Compliance Tools and Standards
 - Software Package Data Exchange (SPDX): A standard format for communicating license information clearly (Linux Foundation WG)
 - FOSSology: An open-source tool/toolkit (Linux Foundation Project) to scan codebases, identify licenses and copyrights, and help manage compliance workflows

OSS on Your Resume: Skills and Opportunities

- Highly Valued: Experience contributing to or effectively using OSS is a marketable skill
- Talent Shortage: Over 90% of hiring managers report difficulty finding sufficient open-source talent [5]
- Employer Interest
 - Many actively seek certified OSS professionals
 - Many are willing to pay for employees to get relevant OSS certifications
- How to Get Involved
 - Create a GitHub profile; contribute (even documentation!) to projects you use
 - Explore projects hosted by **The Linux Foundation** or others
 - o Inquire about **employer's** open source programs or contribution policies
- Benefits: Demonstrates technical ability, collaboration skills, continuous learning, and engagement with modern development

The Analyst and Open Source

- Why Might You Be Involved?
 - Your employer may request participation in relevant OSS communities (> 90% org reliance on OSS creates need for awareness/engagement)
 - Curiosity/"Bandwagon Effect": To understand what competitors are doing or explore potential OSS benefits
- Strategic Involvement: "Responsive Design"
 - Analyst acts as a bridge between OSS community and employer
 - Activities
 - Participate in relevant OSS projects
 - Understand community designs, practices, directions
 - Identify opportunities to incorporate or adapt valuable OSS ideas, components, or practices into the company's proprietary systems or products
 - Goal: Blend external innovation with internal strategic objectives
- Example: NASA hosts open source projects, demonstrating OSS use even in highly specialized domains [6]

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- [6] NASA, NASA Open Source Software, https://code.nasa.gov/, A catalog of open source software released by NASA, 2012 (cit. on p. 41).

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