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Chapter 5

Process of Interaction Design

**B.Tech CSBS
VII Semester**

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Outline

1. Activities
2. Characteristics
3. Lifecycle Models

Interaction Design

- Fields of design
 - Graphic design
 - Architectural design
 - Industrial design
 - Software design
- Our focus is on
 - Interaction design

- Design
 - Plan/scheme conceived in the mind
 - Intended for subsequent action
- Act of designing involves
 - Development of plan/scheme
 - hope of execution with knowledge about
 - Practical constraints
 - Materials
 - Cost
 - feasibility

Interaction design involves

- Developing a plan
- Product's intended use
- Target domain
- Relevant practical considerations

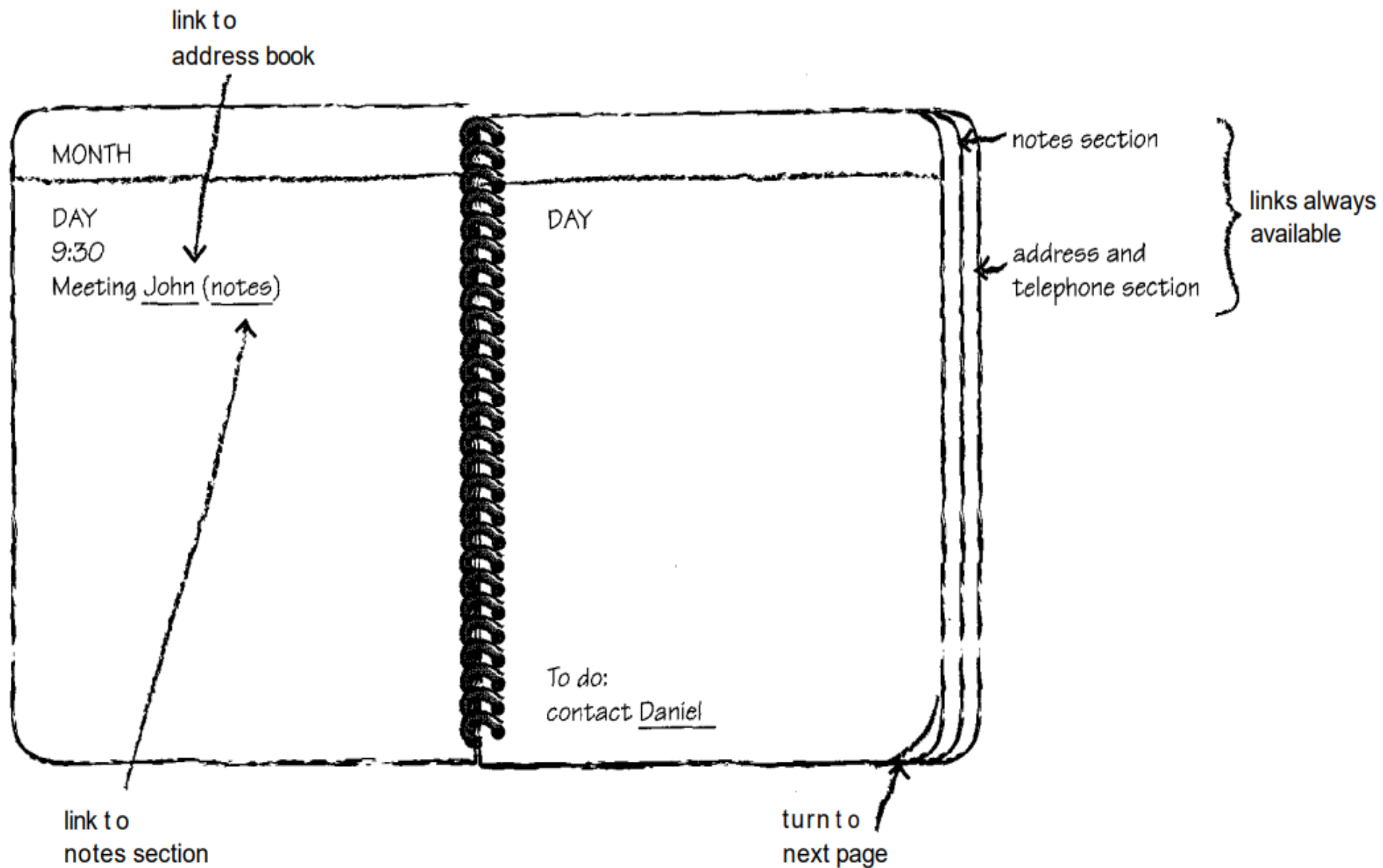


Figure 6.1 An outline sketch of an electronic calendar.

Four basic activities of interaction design

- Identifying needs and establishing requirements
- Developing alternative designs
- Build interactive versions that can be
 - Communicated
 - Assessed
 - Evaluated
 - Measuring their acceptability

- Identifying needs and establishing requirements
 - Fundamental to a user-centered approach
 - Important in interaction design
 - Must know
 - The target users
 - Kind of support the interactive product usefully provide
 - Product's requirements

- Developing alternative designs
 - Core activity of designing
 - Suggest ideas for meeting requirements
 - Broken into two sub-subsequent activities
 - Conceptual design
 - Describes what the product should
 - Do
 - Behave
 - Look like
 - Physical design
 - Considers details of the product
 - Colors
 - Sounds
 - Images to use
 - Menu design
 - Icon design

- Building interactive versions of the designs
 - Does not mean a software version
 - Different techniques may be used to build interactive versions
 - Paper-based prototype
 - Role-playing users

- Evaluating Designs
 - Determines the usability and acceptability of the product
 - Measured by
 - Number of errors users make using it
 - How appealing it is
 - How well it matches the requirements

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Three key characteristics of interaction design process

- User focus
- Specific usability criteria
- Iteration

- User focus
 - Forms a central plank of our view on the interaction design process
 - Does not guarantee
 - Development will involve users
 - But, provide users opportunities for
 - Evaluation
 - User feedback

- Specific usability and user experience goals
 - Should be
 - Identified
 - Clearly documented
 - Agreed upon
 - Help designers
 - Choose different alternative designs
 - Check on progress as the product is developed

- Iteration

- Allows designs to be refined based on feedback
- Particularly true with innovation
- Innovation
 - Takes time
 - Evolution
 - Trial and error
 - Great deal of patience
- Designers never get the solution right the first time

Lifecycle model for interaction design

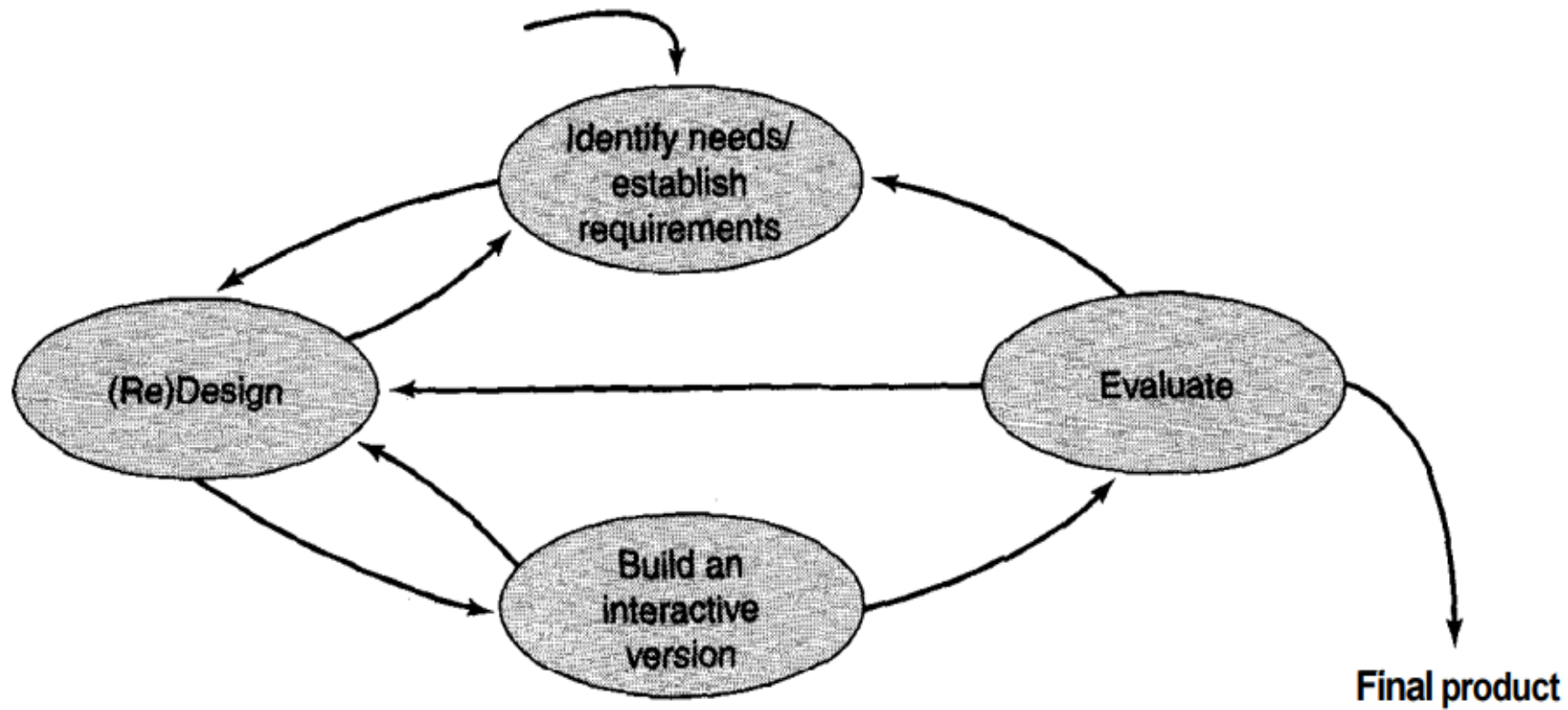


Figure 6.7 A simple interaction design model.

- Lifecycle of the new product starts by
 - identifying needs and requirements
 - Alternative designs are generated to meet the needs and requirements
 - Interactive versions of the designs are developed and evaluated
 - Based on the feedback, the team returns to identify needs/refining requirements

Lifecycle model in Software Engineering

- Software engineering has spawned many lifecycle models, including
 - Waterfall
 - Spiral
 - Rapid Applications Development
 - Representative models used in the industry
 - Proved to be successful
 - Emphasize on iterative, user-centered view

- First model in software engineering
- Forms the basis of many lifecycles in use today
- Linear model
 - Each step must be completed before the next can be started
- Flaw
 - Freezes requirements for months/years, till design & implementation are completed
 - Requirements may change over time

- In 1988 Barry Boehm suggested the model
- Two features
 - Risk analysis
 - Prototyping
 - Incorporates in an iterative framework
 - Allows ideas and progress to be repeatedly checked and evaluated

- Spiral
 - encourages alternatives
 - Re-addresses problems
- WinWin spiral model
 - Incorporates the identification of key stakeholders & win conditions
 - Satisfactory outcome for each stakeholder group
 - A period of stakeholder negotiation to ensure a ‘win-win’ result

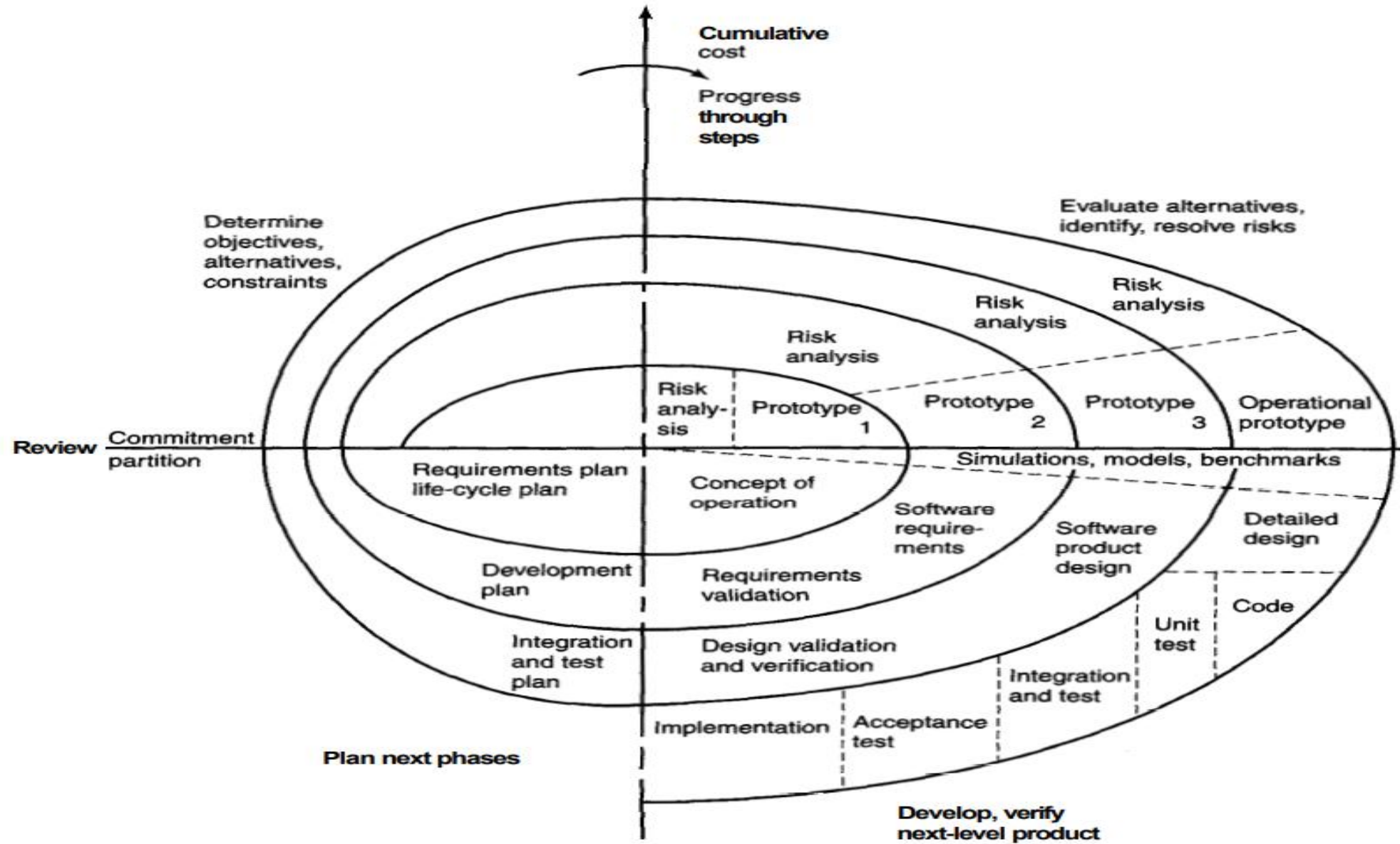


Figure 6.9 The spiral lifecycle model of software development.

Rapid Applications Development (RAD)

- Tries to find solution to inappropriate nature of linear lifecycle models
- Attempts to
 - take a user-centered view
 - Minimize the risk caused by changing requirements during the course of the project

- Two key features
 - Time-limited cycles
 - A system/partial system must be delivered at the end of every six months
 - Called time-boxing
 - Breaks down the large project into many smaller projects
 - Delivers products incrementally
 - Enhances flexibility and maintainability of the final system

- Joint Application Development
 - Users and developers come together
 - To thrash out requirements of the system
 - To make decisions on difficult issues
- Representatives from identified stakeholder group attend workshops

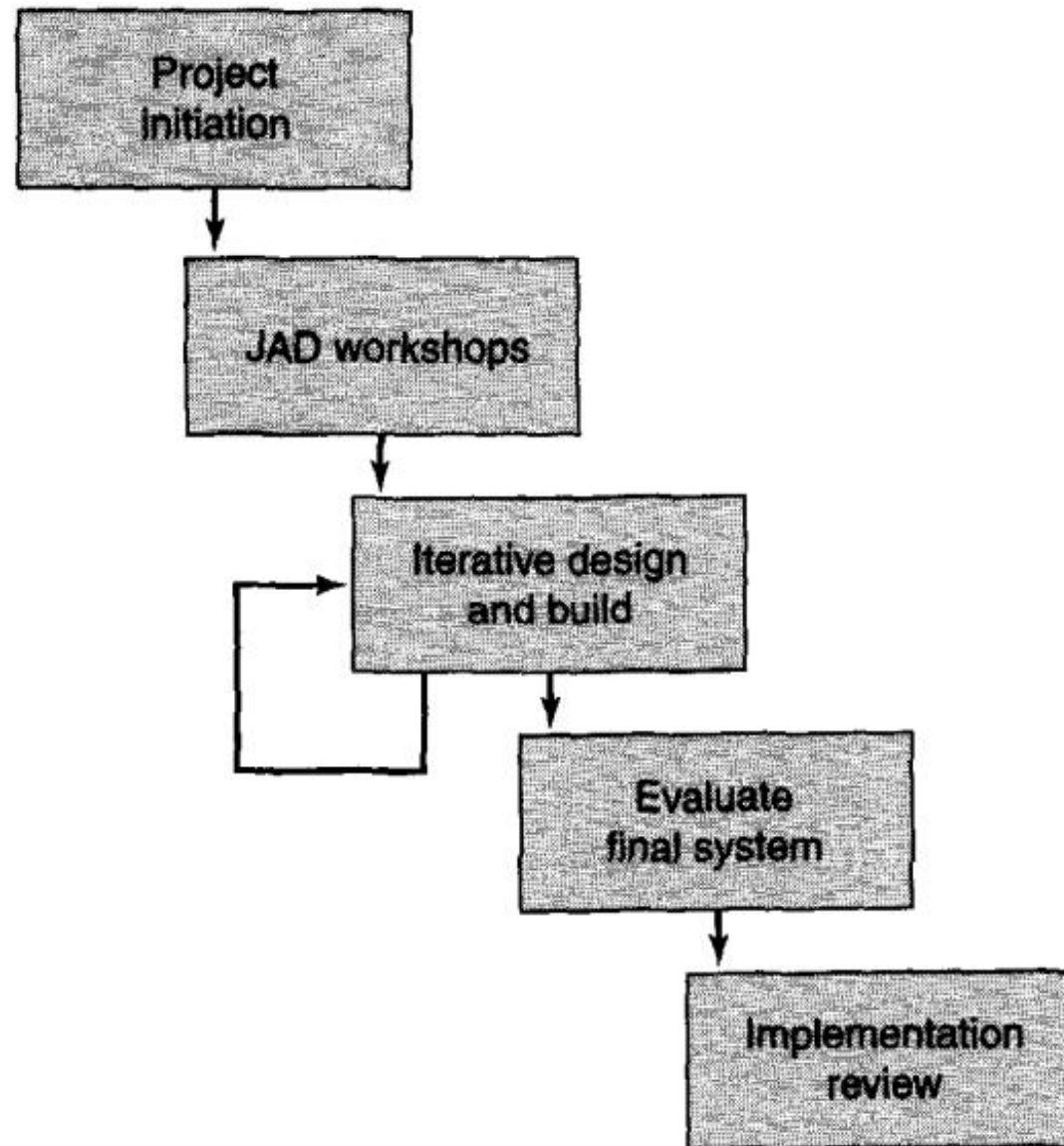


Figure 6.10 A basic **RAD** lifecycle model of software development.

Lifecycle models in HCI

- Interaction design has emerged from HCI
 - The Star Lifecycle Model
 - The Usability Engineering Lifecycle

- The Star Lifecycle Model

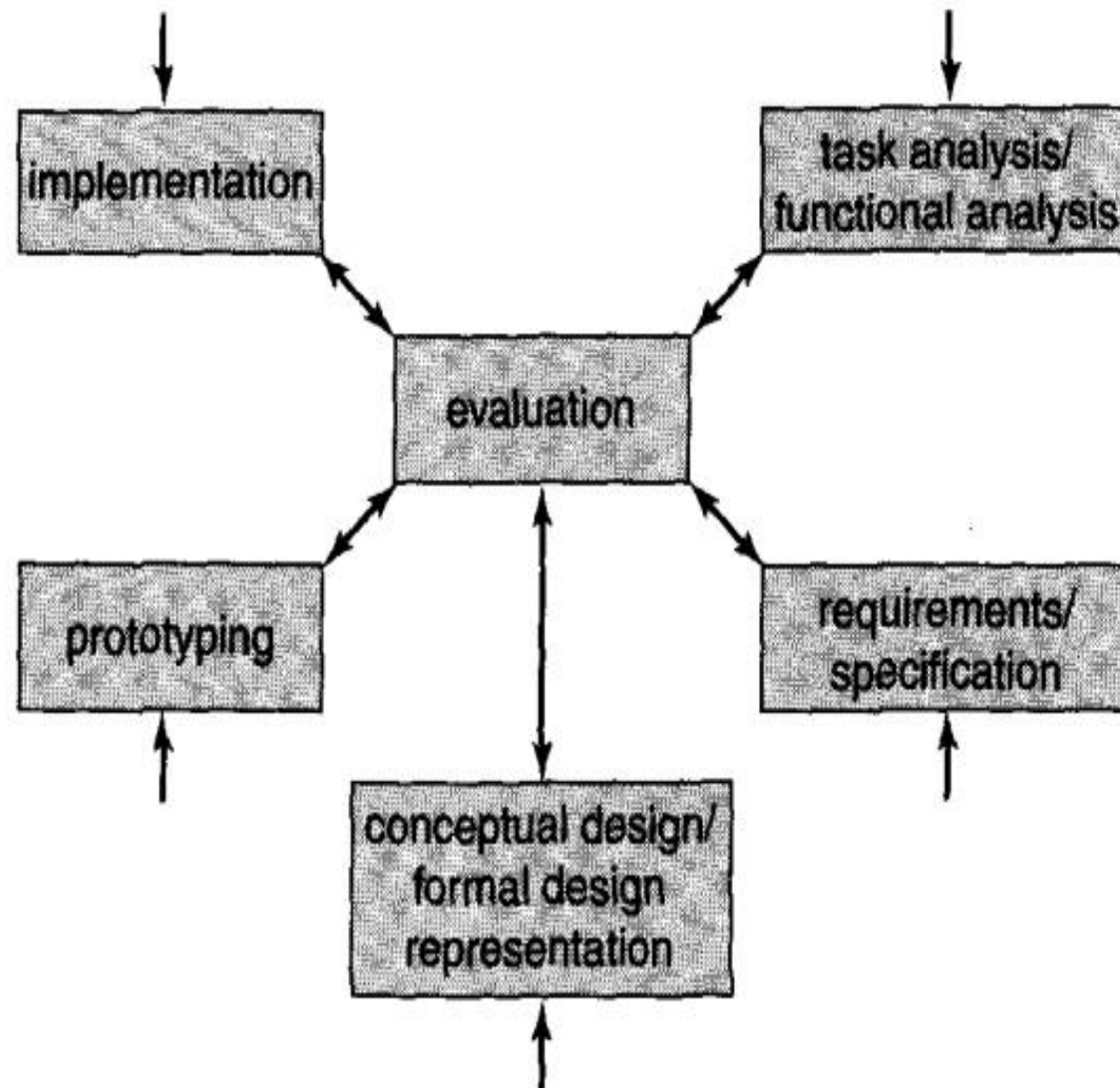


Figure 6.13 The Star lifecycle model.

- Usability Engineering Lifecycle
 - Lifecycle has three tasks
 - Requirement analysis
 - Design/testing/development (largest, involves many subtasks)
 - Installation

THANK YOU