UNIT III
SOFTWARE DESIGN

Software design – Design process – Design concepts – Coupling – Cohesion – Functional independence – Design patterns – Model-view-controller – Publish-subscribe – Adapter – Command – Strategy – Observer – Proxy – Facade – Architectural styles – Layered - Client Server - Tiered - Pipe and filter- User interface design-Case Study.

1. Software design:

The design phase of software development deals with transforming the customer requirements as described in the SRS documents into a form implementable using a programming language. The software design process can be divided into the following three levels or phases of design:

1. Interface Design
2. Architectural Design
3. Detailed Design

Elements of a System

1. **Architecture:** This is the conceptual model that defines the structure, behavior, and views of a system. We can use flowcharts to represent and illustrate the architecture.
2. **Modules:** These are components that handle one specific task in a system. A combination of the modules makes up the system.
3. **Components:** This provides a particular function or group of related functions. They are made up of modules.
4. **Interfaces:** This is the shared boundary across which the components of a system exchange information and relate.
5. **Data:** This is the management of the information and data flow.

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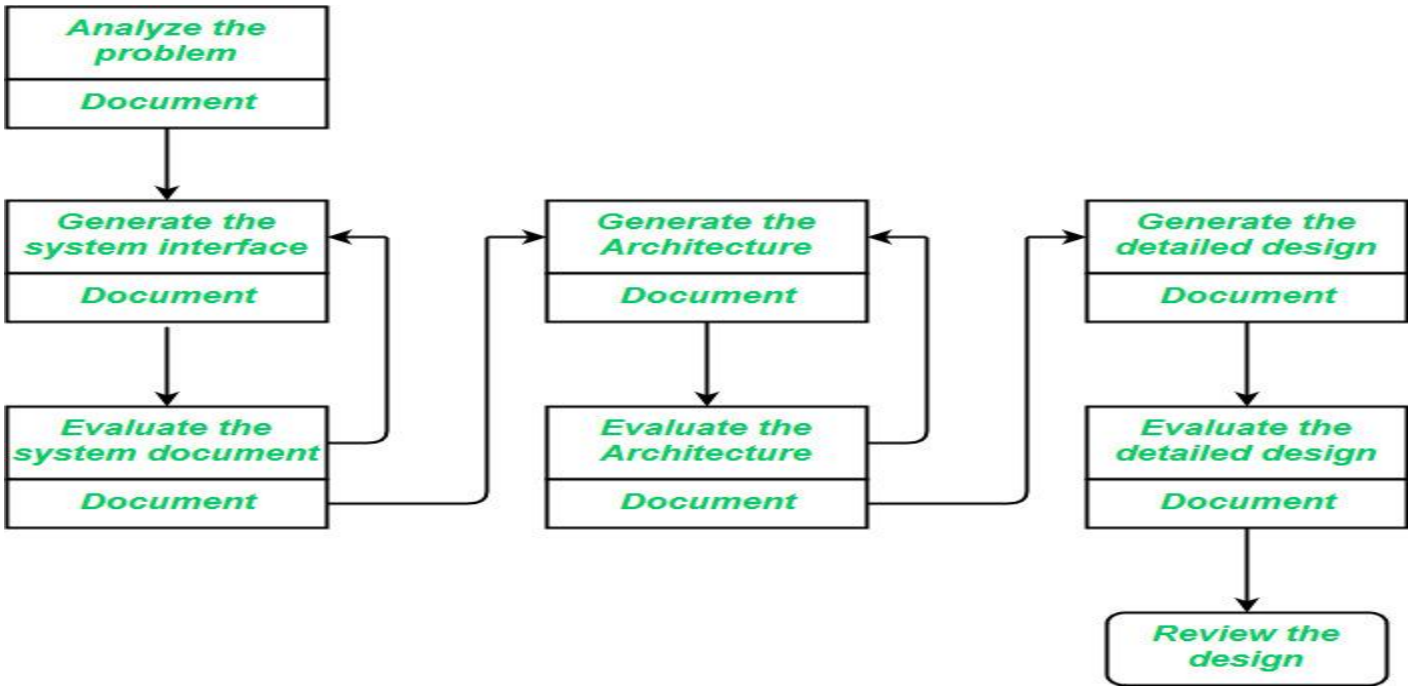


Interface Design

Interface design is the specification of the interaction between a system and its environment. This phase proceeds at a high level of abstraction with respect to the inner workings of the system i.e, during interface design, the internal of the systems are completely ignored, and the system is treated as a black box. Attention is focused on the dialogue between the target system and the users, devices, and other systems with which it interacts. The design problem statement produced during the problem analysis step should identify the people, other systems, and devices which are collectively called agents.

Interface design should include the following details:

1. Precise description of events in the environment, or messages from agents to which the system must respond.
2. Precise description of the events or messages that the system must produce.
3. Specification of the data, and the formats of the data coming into and going out of the system.
4. Specification of the ordering and timing relationships between incoming events or messages, and outgoing events or outputs.

Architectural Design

Architectural design is the specification of the major components of a system, their responsibilities, properties, interfaces, and the relationships and interactions between them. In architectural design, the overall structure of the system is chosen, but the internal details of major components are ignored. Issues in architectural design includes:

1. Gross decomposition of the systems into major components.
2. Allocation of functional responsibilities to components.
3. Component Interfaces.
4. Component scaling and performance properties, resource consumption properties, reliability properties, and so forth.
5. Communication and interaction between components.

The architectural design adds important details ignored during the interface design. Design of the internals of the major components is ignored until the last phase of the design.

Detailed Design

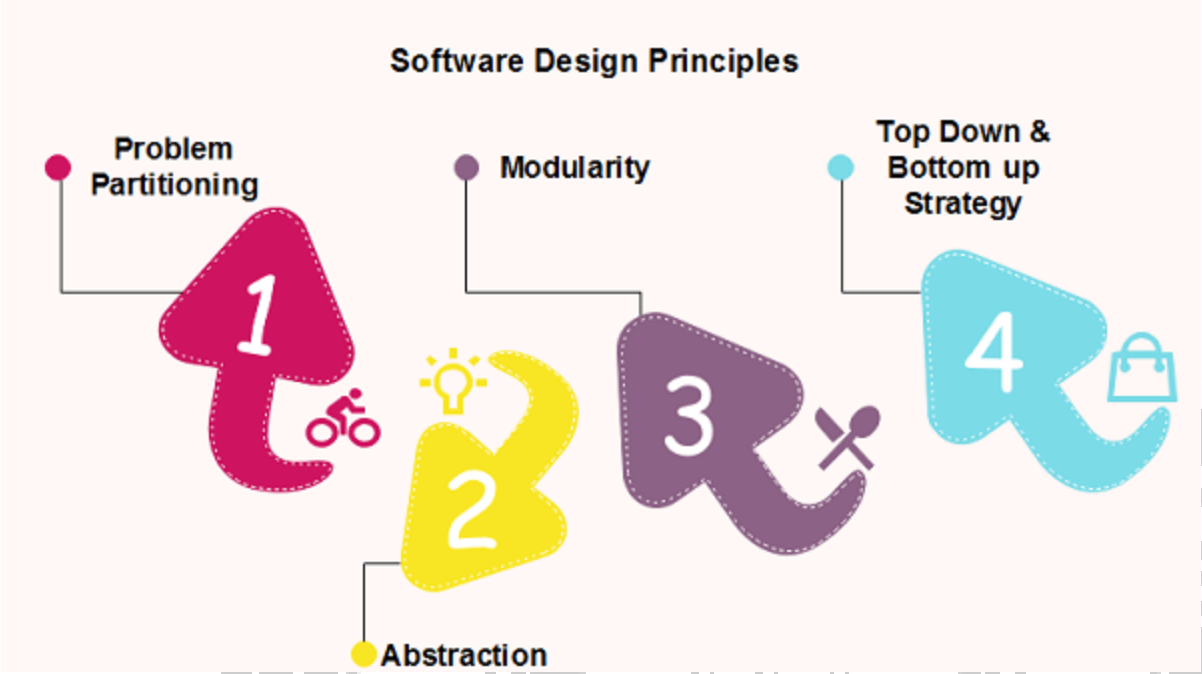
Design is the specification of the internal elements of all major system components, their properties, relationships, processing, and often their algorithms and the data structures. The detailed design may include:

1. Decomposition of major system components into program units.
2. Allocation of functional responsibilities to units.
3. User interfaces.
4. Unit states and state changes.
5. Data and control interaction between units.
6. Data packaging and implementation, including issues of scope and visibility of program elements.
7. Algorithms and data structures.

2. Software Design Principles

Software design principles are concerned with providing means to handle the complexity of the design process effectively. Effectively managing the complexity will not only reduce the effort needed for design but can also reduce the scope of introducing errors during design.

Following are the principles of Software Design



Problem Partitioning

For small problem, we can handle the entire problem at once but for the significant problem, divide the problems and conquer the problem it means to divide the problem into smaller pieces so that each piece can be captured separately.

For software design, the goal is to divide the problem into manageable pieces.

Benefits of Problem Partitioning

1. Software is easy to understand
2. Software becomes simple
3. Software is easy to test
4. Software is easy to modify
5. Software is easy to maintain
6. Software is easy to expand

Abstraction

An abstraction is a tool that enables a designer to consider a component at an abstract level without bothering about the internal details of the implementation. Abstraction can be used for existing element as well as the component being designed.

Here, there are two common abstraction mechanisms

1. Functional Abstraction
2. Data Abstraction

Functional Abstraction

i. A module is specified by the method it performs.

ii. The details of the algorithm to accomplish the functions are not visible to the user of the function.

Functional abstraction forms the basis for **Function oriented design approaches**.

Data Abstraction

Details of the data elements are not visible to the users of data. Data Abstraction forms the basis for **Object Oriented design approaches**.

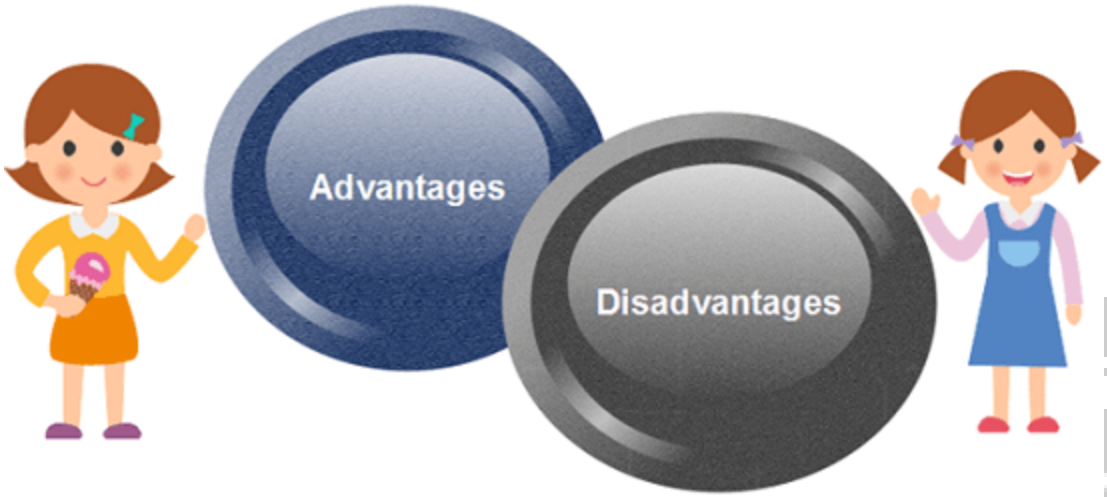
Modularity

Modularity specifies to the division of software into separate modules which are differently named and addressed and are integrated later on in to obtain the completely functional software. It is the only property that allows a program to be intellectually manageable. Single large programs are difficult to understand and read due to a large number of reference variables, control paths, global variables, etc.

- ach module is a well-defined system that can be used with other applications.
- Each module has single specified objectives.
- Modules can be separately compiled and saved in the library.
- Modules should be easier to use than to build.
- Modules are simpler from outside than inside.

Advantages and Disadvantages of Modularity

In this topic, we will discuss various advantage and disadvantage of Modularity.



Advantages of Modularity

There are several advantages of Modularity

- It allows large programs to be written by several or different people
- It encourages the creation of commonly used routines to be placed in the library and used by other programs.
- It simplifies the overlay procedure of loading a large program into main storage.
- It provides more checkpoints to measure progress.
- It provides a framework for complete testing, more accessible to test
- It produced the well designed and more readable program.

Disadvantages of Modularity

There are several disadvantages of Modularity

- Execution time maybe, but not certainly, longer
- Storage size perhaps, but is not certainly, increased
- Compilation and loading time may be longer
- Inter-module communication problems may be increased
- More linkage required, run-time may be longer, more source lines must be written, and more documentation has to be done

3. Design concepts

The set of fundamental software design concepts are as follows:

1. Abstraction

- A solution is stated in large terms using the language of the problem environment at the highest level abstraction.
- The lower level of abstraction provides a more detail description of the solution.
- A sequence of instruction that contain a specific and limited function refers in a procedural abstraction.
- A collection of data that describes a data object is a data abstraction.

2. Architecture

- The complete structure of the software is known as software architecture.
- Structure provides conceptual integrity for a system in a number of ways.
- The architecture is the structure of program modules where they interact with each other in a specialized way.
- The components use the structure of data.
- The aim of the software design is to obtain an architectural framework of a system.
- The more detailed design activities are conducted from the framework.

3. Patterns

A design pattern describes a design structure and that structure solves a particular design problem in a specified content.

4. Modularity

- A software is separately divided into name and addressable components. Sometime they are called as modules which integrate to satisfy the problem requirements.
- Modularity is the single attribute of a software that permits a program to be managed easily.

5. Information hiding

Modules must be specified and designed so that the information like algorithm and data presented in a module is not accessible for other modules not requiring that information.

6. Functional independence

- The functional independence is the concept of separation and related to the concept of modularity, abstraction and information hiding.
- The functional independence is accessed using two criteria i.e Cohesion and coupling.

Cohesion

- Cohesion is an extension of the information hiding concept.
- A cohesive module performs a single task and it requires a small interaction with the other components in other parts of the program.

Coupling

Coupling is an indication of interconnection between modules in a structure of software.

7. Refinement

- Refinement is a top-down design approach.
- It is a process of elaboration.
- A program is established for refining levels of procedural details.
- A hierarchy is established by decomposing a statement of function in a stepwise manner till the programming language statement are reached.

8. Refactoring

- It is a reorganization technique which simplifies the design of components without changing its function behaviour.
- Refactoring is the process of changing the software system in a way that it does not change the external behaviour of the code still improves its internal structure.

9. Design classes

- The model of software is defined as a set of design classes.
- Every class describes the elements of problem domain and that focus on features of the problem which are user visible.

- OO design concept in Software Engineering
- Software design model elements
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