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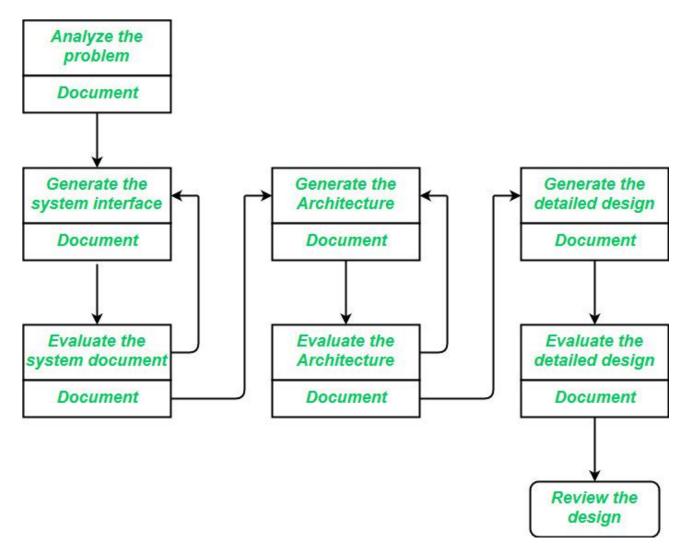
Software Design Process

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 of phases of design:

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



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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 focussed 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:

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- Precise description of events in the environment, or messages from agents to which the system must respond.
- Precise description of the events or messages that the system must produce.
- Specification on the data, and the formats of the data coming into and going out of the system.
- 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:

- Gross decomposition of the systems into major components.
- Allocation of functional responsibilities to components.
- Component Interfaces
- Component scaling and performance properties, resource consumption properties, reliability properties, and so forth.
- 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:

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

Introduction to design process

• The main aim of design engineering is to generate a model which shows firmness, delight and commodity.



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• Software design is an iterative process through which requirements are translated into the blueprint for building the software.

Software quality guidelines

- A design is generated using the recognizable architectural styles and compose a good design characteristic of components and it is implemented in evolutionary manner for testing.
- A design of the software must be modular i.e the software must be logically partitioned into elements.
- In design, the representation of data, architecture, interface and components should be distinct.
- A design must carry appropriate data structure and recognizable data patterns.
- Design components must show the independent functional characteristic.
- A design creates an interface that reduce the complexity of connections between the components.
- A design must be derived using the repeatable method.
- The notations should be use in design which can effectively communicates its meaning.

Quality attributes

The attributes of design name as 'FURPS' are as follows:

Functionality:

It evaluates the feature set and capabilities of the program.

Usability:

It is accessed by considering the factors such as human factor, overall aesthetics, consistency and documentation.

Reliability:

It is evaluated by measuring parameters like frequency and security of failure, output result accuracy, the mean-time-to-failure(MTTF), recovery from failure and the the program predictability.

Performance:

It is measured by considering processing speed, response time, resource consumption, throughput and efficiency.



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Supportability:

- It combines the ability to extend the program, adaptability, serviceability. These three term defines the maintainability.
- Testability, compatibility and configurability are the terms using which a system can be easily installed and found the problem easily.
- Supportability also consists of more attributes such as compatibility, extensibility, fault tolerance, modularity, reusability, robustness, security, portability, scalability.

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.



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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

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- 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.

Unified Modeling Language (UML) | An Introduction

Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a general purpose modelling language. The main aim of UML is to define a standard way to **visualize** the way a system has been designed. It is quite similar to blueprints used in other fields of engineering.

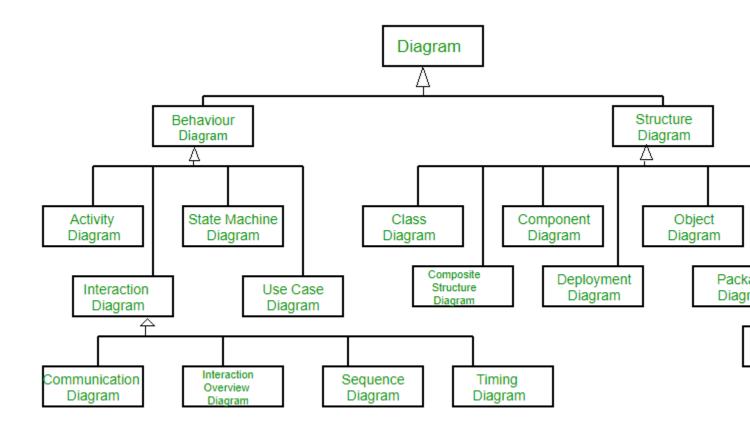
UML is **not a programming language**, it is rather a visual language. We use UML diagrams to portray the **behavior and structure** of a system. UML helps software engineers, businessmen and system architects with modelling, design and analysis. The Object Management Group (OMG) adopted Unified Modelling Language as a standard in 1997. Its been managed by OMG ever since. International Organization for Standardization (ISO) published UML as an approved standard in 2005. UML has been revised over the years and is reviewed periodically. UML is linked with **object oriented** design and analysis. UML makes the use of elements and forms associations between them to form diagrams. Diagrams in UML can be broadly classified as:

- 1. **Structural Diagrams** Capture static aspects or structure of a system. Structural Diagrams include: Component Diagrams, Object Diagrams, Class Diagrams and Deployment Diagrams.
- 2. **Behavior Diagrams** Capture dynamic aspects or behavior of the system. Behavior diagrams include: Use Case Diagrams, State Diagrams, Activity Diagrams and Interaction Diagrams.

The image below shows the hierarchy of diagrams according to UML 2.2



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Object Oriented Concepts Used in UML –

- 1. Class A class defines the blue print i.e. structure and functions of an object.
- 2. **Objects** Objects help us to decompose large systems and help us to modularize our system. Modularity helps to divide our system into understandable components so that we can build our system piece by piece. An object is the fundamental unit (building block) of a system which is used to depict an entity.
- 3. **Inheritance** Inheritance is a mechanism by which child classes inherit the properties of their parent classes.
- 4. Abstraction Mechanism by which implementation details are hidden from user.
- 5. **Encapsulation** Binding data together and protecting it from the outer world is referred to as encapsulation.
- 6. **Polymorphism** Mechanism by which functions or entities are able to exist in different forms.



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Structural UML Diagrams -

- 1. **Class Diagram** The most widely use UML diagram is the class diagram. It is the building block of all object oriented software systems. We use class diagrams to depict the static structure of a system by showing system's classes, their methods and attributes. Class diagrams also help us identify relationship between different classes or objects.
- 2. **Composite Structure Diagram** We use composite structure diagrams to represent the internal structure of a class and its interaction points with other parts of the system. A composite structure diagram represents relationship between parts and their configuration which determine how the classifier (class, a component, or a deployment node) behaves. They represent internal structure of a structured classifier making the use of parts, ports, and connectors. We can also model collaborations using composite structure diagrams. They are similar to class diagrams except they represent individual parts in detail as compared to the entire class.
- 3. **Object Diagram** An Object Diagram can be referred to as a screenshot of the instances in a system and the relationship that exists between them. Since object diagrams depict behaviour when objects have been instantiated, we are able to study the behaviour of the system at a particular instant. An object diagram is similar to a class diagram except it shows the instances of classes in the system. We depict actual classifiers and their relationships making the use of class diagrams. On the other hand, an Object Diagram represents specific instances of classes and relationships between them at a point of time.
- 4. Component Diagram Component diagrams are used to represent the how the physical components in a system have been organized. We use them for modelling implementation details. Component Diagrams depict the structural relationship between software system elements and help us in understanding if functional requirements have been covered by planned development. Component Diagrams become essential to use when we design and build complex systems. Interfaces are used by components of the system to communicate with each other.
- 5. Deployment Diagram Deployment Diagrams are used to represent system hardware and its software. It tells us what hardware components exist and what software components run on them. We illustrate system architecture as distribution of software artifacts over distributed targets. An artifact is the information that is generated by system software. They are primarily used when a software is being used, distributed or deployed over multiple machines with different configurations.
- 6. **Package Diagram** We use Package Diagrams to depict how packages and their elements have been organized. A package diagram simply shows us the dependencies between different packages and internal composition of packages. Packages help us to organise UML diagrams into meaningful groups and make the diagram easy to understand. They are primarily used to organise class and use case diagrams.

Behavior Diagrams –

1. **State Machine Diagrams** – A state diagram is used to represent the condition of the system or part of the system at finite instances of time. It's a behavioral diagram and it represents the behavior using finite state transitions. State diagrams are also referred to as **State machines** and **State-chart**



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Diagrams . These terms are often used interchangeably. So simply, a state diagram is used to model the dynamic behavior of a class in response to time and changing external stimuli.

- 2. Activity Diagrams We use Activity Diagrams to illustrate the flow of control in a system. We can also use an activity diagram to refer to the steps involved in the execution of a use case. We model sequential and concurrent activities using activity diagrams. So, we basically depict workflows visually using an activity diagram. An activity diagram focuses on condition of flow and the sequence in which it happens. We describe or depict what causes a particular event using an activity diagram.
- 3. Use Case Diagrams Use Case Diagrams are used to depict the functionality of a system or a part of a system. They are widely used to illustrate the functional requirements of the system and its interaction with external agents(actors). A use case is basically a diagram representing different scenarios where the system can be used. A use case diagram gives us a high level view of what the system or a part of the system does without going into implementation details.
- 4. **Sequence Diagram** A sequence diagram simply depicts interaction between objects in a sequential order i.e. the order in which these interactions take place. We can also use the terms event diagrams or event scenarios to refer to a sequence diagram. Sequence diagrams describe how and in what order the objects in a system function. These diagrams are widely used by businessmen and software developers to document and understand requirements for new and existing systems.
- 5. Communication Diagram A Communication Diagram(known as Collaboration Diagram in UML 1.x) is used to show sequenced messages exchanged between objects. A communication diagram focuses primarily on objects and their relationships. We can represent similar information using Sequence diagrams,however, communication diagrams represent objects and links in a free form.
- 6. **Timing Diagram** Timing Diagram are a special form of Sequence diagrams which are used to depict the behavior of objects over a time frame. We use them to show time and duration constraints which govern changes in states and behavior of objects.
- 7. **Interaction Overview Diagram** An Interaction Overview Diagram models a sequence of actions and helps us simplify complex interactions into simpler occurrences. It is a mixture of activity and sequence diagrams.

Software Engineering | Architectural Design

Introduction: The software needs the architectural design to represents the design of software. IEEE defines architectural design as "the process of defining a collection of hardware and software components and their interfaces to establish the framework for the development of a computer system." The software that is built for computer-based systems can exhibit one of these many architectural styles.

Each style will describe a system category that consists of :

- A set of components(eg: a database, computational modules) that will perform a function required by the system.
- The set of connectors will help in coordination, communication, and cooperation between the components.
- Conditions that how components can be integrated to form the system.
- Semantic models that help the designer to understand the overall properties of the system.
- The use of architectural styles is to establish a structure for all the components of the system.

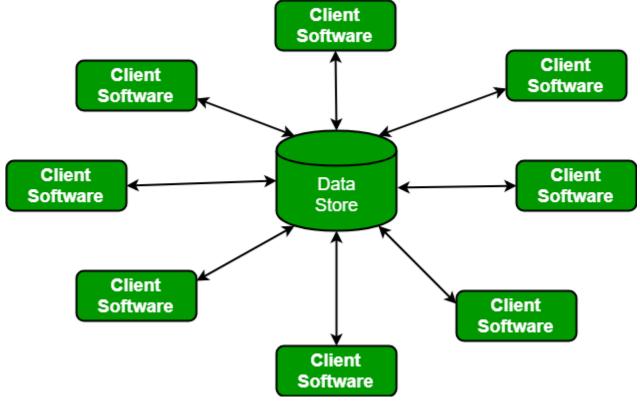


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Taxonomy of Architectural styles:

1. Data centred architectures:

- A data store will reside at the center of this architecture and is accessed frequently by the other components that update, add, delete or modify the data present within the store.
- The figure illustrates a typical data centered style. The client software access a central repository. Variation of this approach are used to transform the repository into a blackboard when data related to client or data of interest for the client change the notifications to client software.
- This data-centered architecture will promote integrability. This means that the existing components can be changed and new client components can be added to the architecture without the permission or concern of other clients.
- Data can be passed among clients using blackboard mechanism.



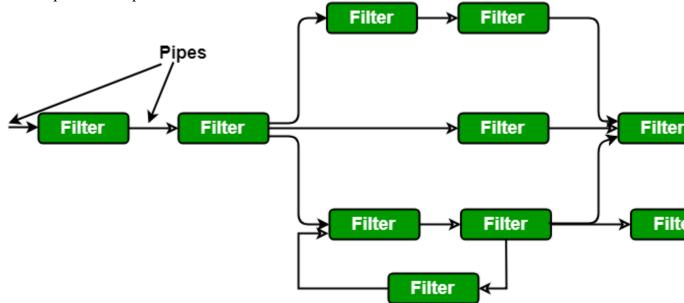
2. Data flow architectures:

• This kind of architecture is used when input data to be transformed into output data through a series of computational manipulative components.



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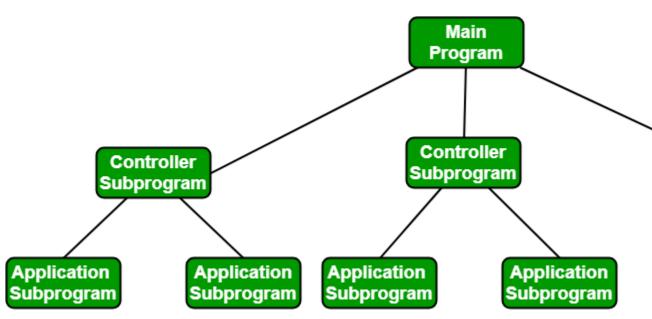
- The figure represents pipe-and-filter architecture since it uses both pipe and filter and it has a set of components called filters connected by pipes.
- Pipes are used to transmit data from one component to the next.
- Each filter will work independently and is designed to take data input of a certain form and produces data output to the next filter of a specified form. The filters don't require any knowledge of the working of neighboring filters.
- If the data flow degenerates into a single line of transforms, then it is termed as batch sequential. This structure accepts the batch of data and then applies a series of sequential components to transform it.



- 3. **Call and Return architectures:** It is used to create a program that is easy to scale and modify. Many sub-styles exist within this category. Two of them are explained below.
 - **Remote procedure call architecture:** This components is used to present in a main program or sub program architecture distributed among multiple computers on a network.
 - Main program or Subprogram architectures: The main program structure decomposes into number of subprograms or function into a control hierarchy. Main program contains number of subprograms that can invoke other components.



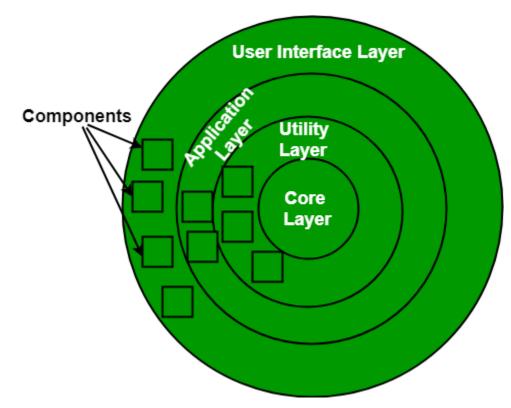
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- 4. **Object Oriented architecture:** The components of a system encapsulate data and the operations that must be applied to manipulate the data. The coordination and communication between the components are established via the message passing.
- 5. Layered architecture:
 - A number of different layers are defined with each layer performing a well-defined set of operations. Each layer will do some operations that becomes closer to machine instruction set progressively.
 - At the outer layer, components will receive the user interface operations and at the inner layers, components will perform the operating system interfacing(communication and coordination with OS)
 - Intermediate layers to utility services and application software functions.



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Software Engineering | User Interface Design

User interface is the front-end application view to which user interacts in order to use the software. The software becomes more popular if its user interface is:

- Attractive
- Simple to use
- Responsive in short time
- Clear to understand
- Consistent on all interface screens

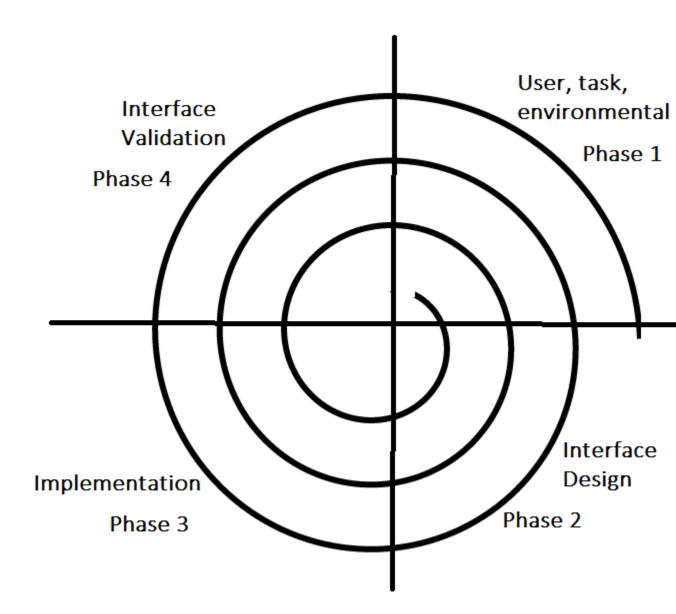
There are two types of User Interface:

- 1. **Command Line Interface:** Command Line Interface provides a command prompt, where the user types the command and feeds to the system. The user needs to remember the syntax of the command and its use.
- 2. **Graphical User Interface:** Graphical User Interface provides the simple interactive interface to interact with the system. GUI can be a combination of both hardware and software. Using GUI, user interprets the software.

User Interface Design Process:



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The analysis and design process of a user interface is iterative and can be represented by a spiral model. The analysis and design process of user interface consists of four framework activities.

1. User, task, environmental analysis, and modeling: Initially, the focus is based on the profile of users who will interact with the system, i.e. understanding, skill and knowledge, type of user, etc, based on the user's profile users are made into categories. From each category requirements are gathered. Based on the requirements developer understand how to develop the interface. Once all the requirements are gathered a detailed analysis is conducted. In the analysis part, the tasks that the user performs to establish the goals of the system are identified, described and elaborated. The analysis of the user environment focuses on the physical work environment. Among the questions to be asked are:

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- Where will the interface be located physically?
- Will the user be sitting, standing, or performing other tasks unrelated to the interface?
- Does the interface hardware accommodate space, light, or noise constraints?
- Are there special human factors considerations driven by environmental factors?
- 2. **Interface Design:** The goal of this phase is to define the set of interface objects and actions i.e. Control mechanisms that enable the user to perform desired tasks. Indicate how these control mechanisms affect the system. Specify the action sequence of tasks and subtasks, also called a user scenario. Indicate the state of the system when the user performs a particular task. Always follow the three golden rules stated by Theo Mandel. Design issues such as response time, command and action structure, error handling, and help facilities are considered as the design model is refined. This phase serves as the foundation for the implementation phase.
- 3. **Interface construction and implementation:** The implementation activity begins with the creation of prototype (model) that enables usage scenarios to be evaluated. As iterative design process continues a User Interface toolkit that allows the creation of windows, menus, device interaction, error messages, commands, and many other elements of an interactive environment can be used for completing the construction of an interface.
- 4. **Interface Validation:** This phase focuses on testing the interface. The interface should be in such a way that it should be able to perform tasks correctly and it should be able to handle a variety of tasks. It should achieve all the user's requirements. It should be easy to use and easy to learn. Users should accept the interface as a useful one in their work.

Software Engineering | Function Oriented Design

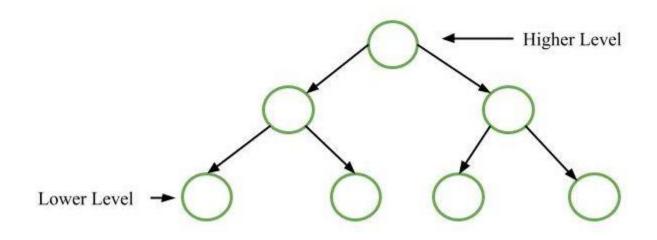
The design process for software systems often has two levels. At the first level the focus is on deciding which modules are needed for the system on the basis of SRS (Software Requirement Specification) and how the modules should be interconnected.

Function Oriented Design is an approach to software design where the design is decomposed into a set of interacting units where each unit has a clearly defined function. **Generic Procedure:**

Start with a high level description of what the software / program does. Refine each part of the description one by one by specifying in greater details the functionality of each part. These points lead to Top-Down Structure.



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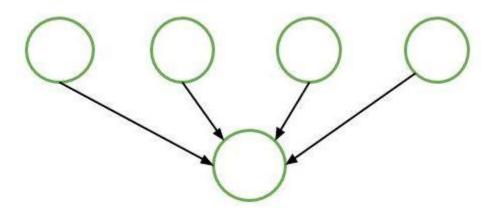


Problem in Top-Down design method:

Mostly each module is used by at most one other module and that module is called its Parent module.

Solution to the problem:

Designing of reusable module. It means modules use several modules to do their required functions.



Function Oriented Design Strategies:

Function Oriented Design Strategies are as follows:

1. Data Flow Diagram (DFD):

A data flow diagram (DFD) maps out the flow of information for any process or system. It uses defined symbols like rectangles, circles and arrows, plus short text labels, to show data inputs, outputs, storage points and the routes between each destination.

2. **Data Dictionaries:** Data dictionaries are simply repositories to store information about all data items defined in



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DFDs. At the requirement stage, data dictionaries contains data items. Data dictionaries include Name of the item, Aliases (Other names for items), Description / purpose, Related data items, Range of values, Data structure definition / form.

3. Structure Charts:

It is the hierarchical representation of system which partitions the system into black boxes (functionality is known to users but inner details are unknown). Components are read from top to bottom and left to right. When a module calls another, it views the called module as black box, passing required parameters and receiving results.

Pseudo Code:

Pseudo Code is system description in short English like phrases describing the function. It use keyword and indentation. Pseudo codes are used as replacement for flow charts. It decreases the amount of documentation required.