

How the customer explained it



How the Project Leader understood it



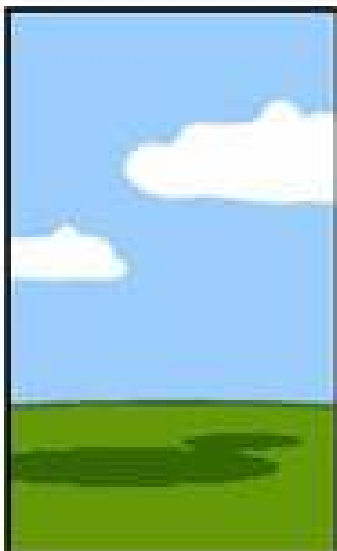
How the Analyst designed it



How the Programmer wrote it



How the Business Consultant described it



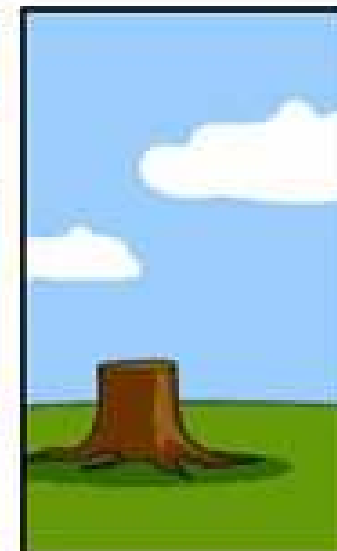
How the project was documented



What operations installed



How the customer was billed



How it was supported



What the customer really needed

RE Process

Lawrence Chung

Department of Computer Science

The University of Texas at Dallas

RE Process: What is a Process?

- Given input, transforms it into output
- Consist of a set of activities
- Process descriptions are also **specifications**
 - Often produced by Requirements Engineers
 - Should be as complete, consistent and clear

RE Process: Why?

Quality of product ← Quality of Process



- ☐ Garbage in garbage out, so get the right requirements

Product

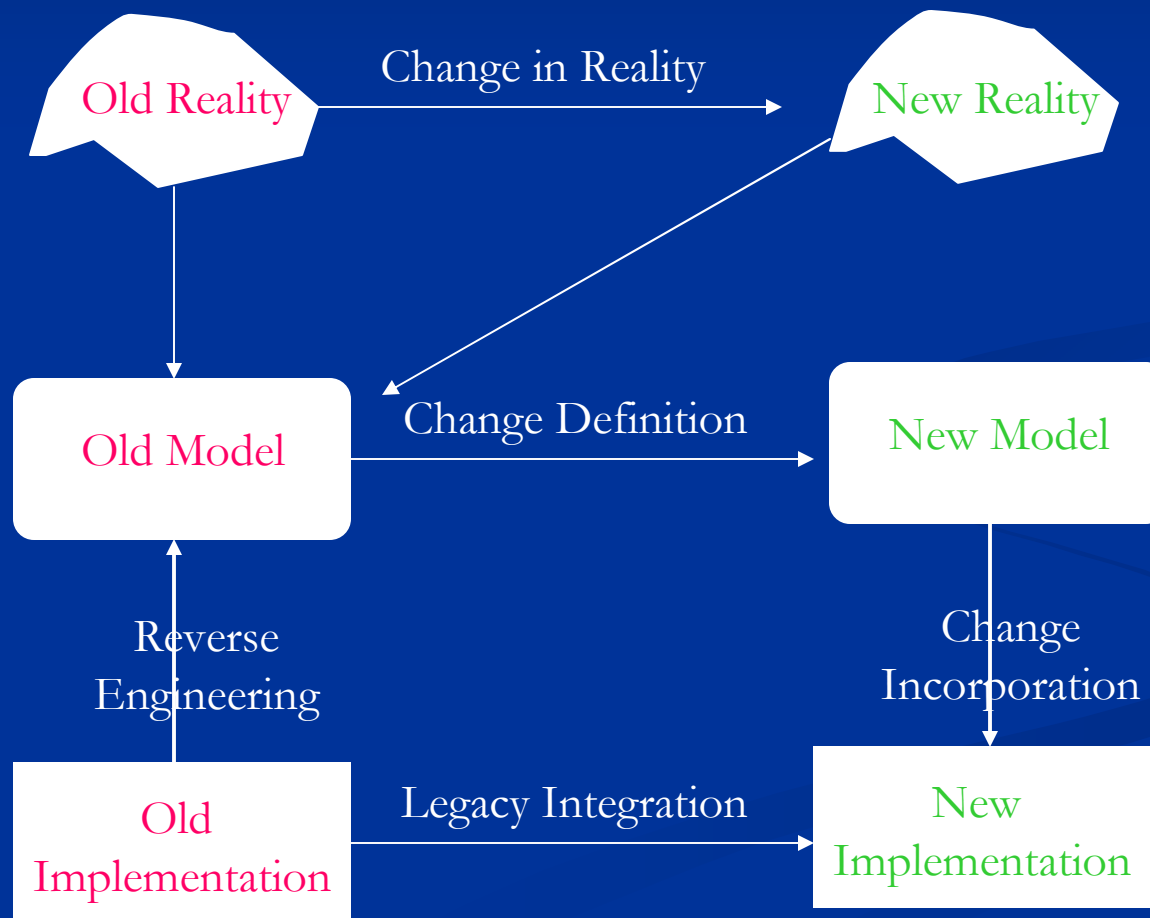
RE Process: Why?

It is more important to understand the problem than the solution.
[Albert Einstein]

If software is simply for automation,
what would a washing machine be like?



RE Process: The Basic RE Evolutionary Process



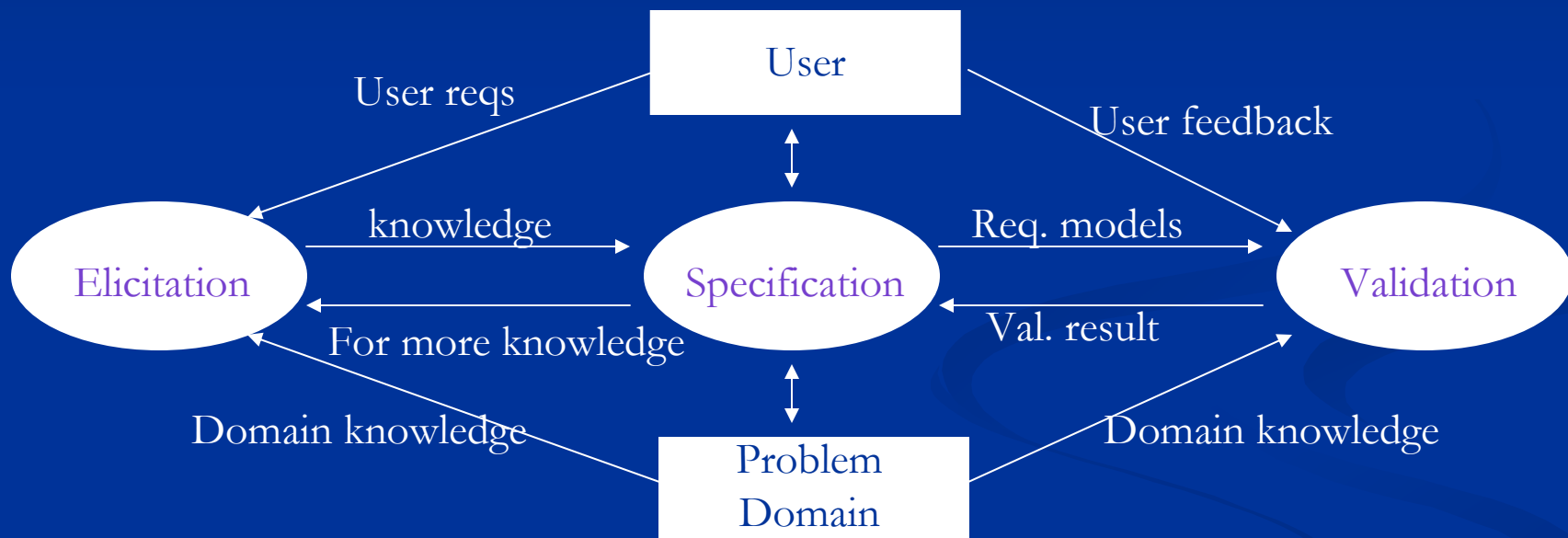
RE Process: The Basic RE Evolutionary Process

Evolution is inevitable – *traceability* is more than a virtue

RE Process: A Basic Framework [Loucopolos]

Many variations and extensions

- ❖ 3 fundamental activities:
understand, (formally) describe, attain an agreement on, the problem

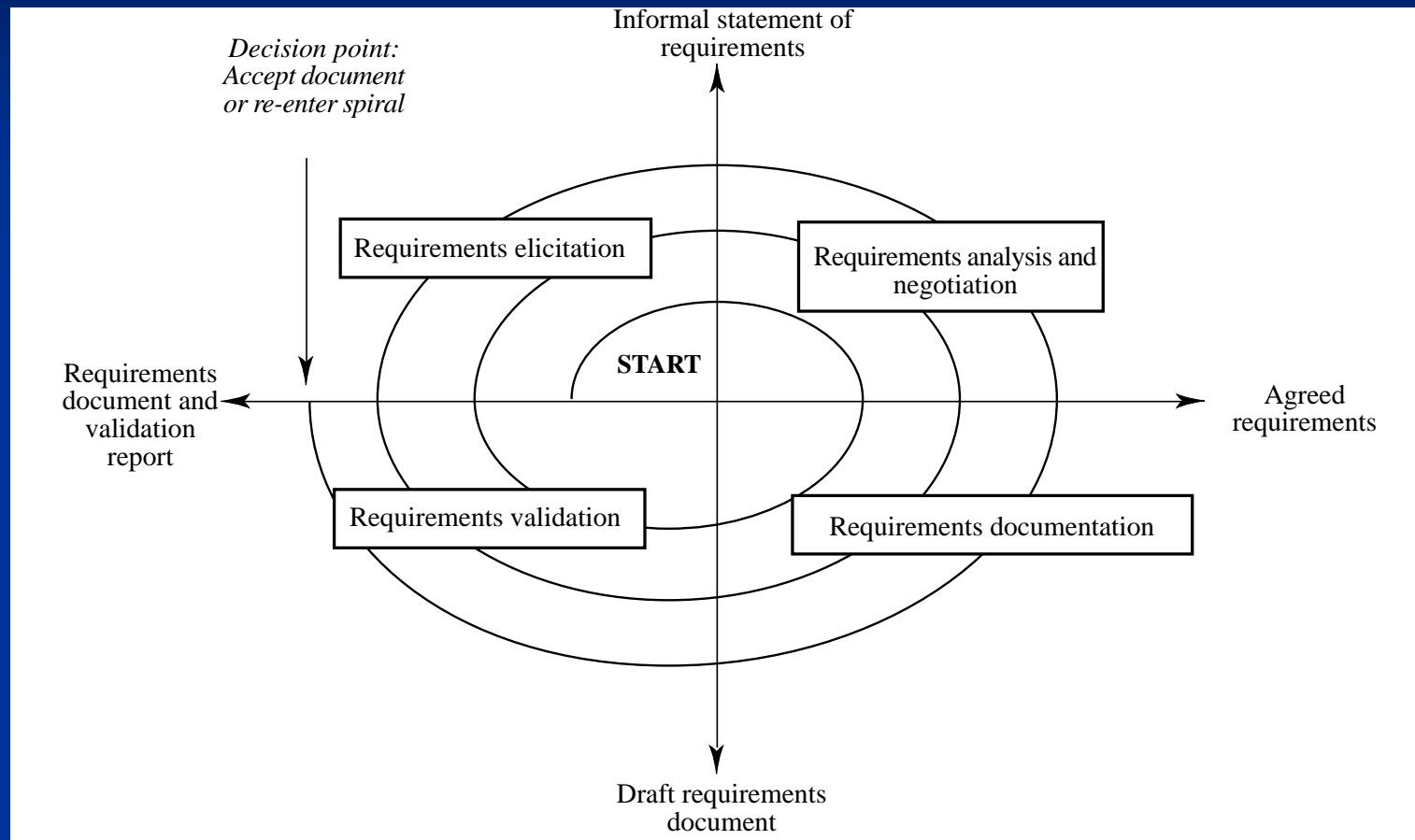


(domain experts, laws, standards, policies, documents, etc.)

- Elicitation: determine what's really needed, why needed, whom to talk to
- Specification: produce a (formal) RS model: translate "vague" into "concrete", etc. make various decisions on what & how
- Validation: assure that the RS model satisfies the users' needs

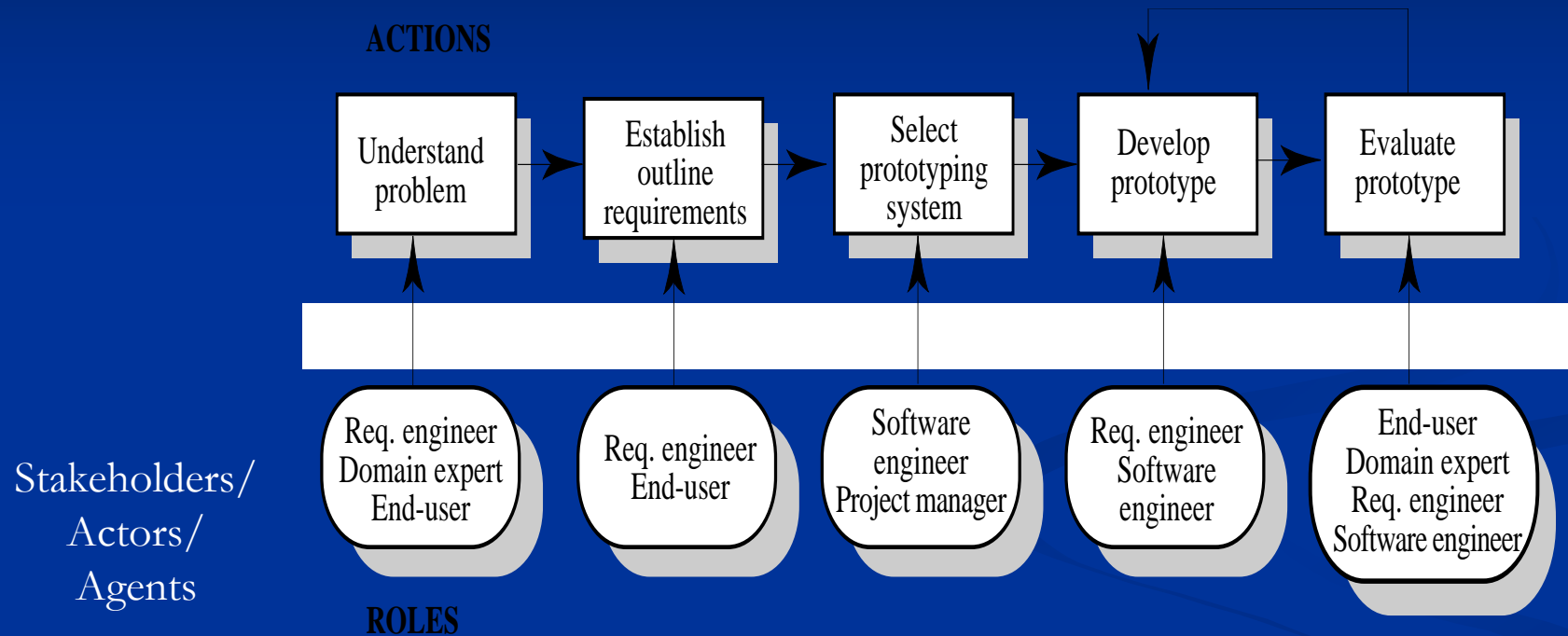
RE Process: Spiral Model [KotonyaSummerville98]

How many cycles? When to analyze and negotiate? Risk analysis?



- Requirements elicitation: Requirements discovered through consultation with stakeholders
- Requirements analysis and negotiation: Requirements are analysed and conflicts resolved through negotiation
- Requirements documentation: A requirements document is produced
- Requirements validation: The requirements document is checked for consistency and completeness

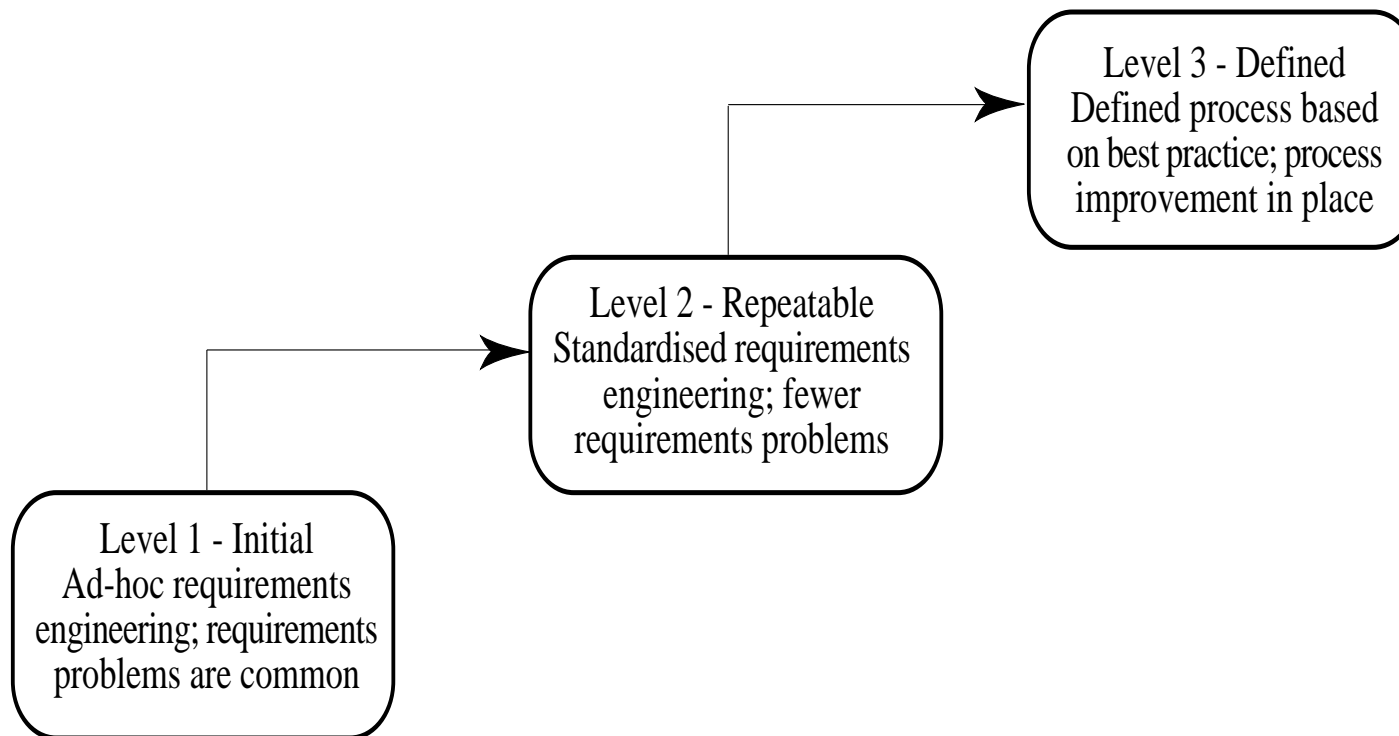
RE Processes: RAD (Role Actor Diagram)



for prototyping [Kotonya&Sommerville98]

An RE Process is dominated by human, social and organisational factors

RE Process: A RE Process Maturity Model Based on CMM



IEEE Standard for SRS

[IEEE-STD-830-1993] [Blum 1992, p160]

1 Introduction

Purpose

Scope

Identifies the product, & application domain

Definitions, acronyms, abbreviations

Reference documents

Describes contents and structure of the remainder of the SRS

Overview

Describes all external interfaces: system, user, hardware, software; also operations and site adaptation, and hardware constraints

2 Overall Description

Product perspective

Summary of major functions

Product functions

User characteristics

Anything that will limit the developer's options (e.g. regulations, reliability, criticality, hardware limitations, parallelism, etc)

Constraints

Assumptions and Dependencies

3 Specific Requirements

All the requirements go in here (i.e. this is the body of the document). IEEE STD provides 8 different templates for this section

Appendices

Index

IEEE Standard Section 3

[IEEE-STD-830-1993.] [Blum 1992, p160]

3.1 External Interface Requirements

3.1.1 User Interfaces

3.1.2 Hardware Interfaces

3.1.3 Software Interfaces

3.1.4 Communication Interfaces

3.2 Functional Requirements

this section organized by mode, user class, feature, etc.

For example:

3.2.1 Mode 1

3.2.1.1 Functional Requirement 1.1

...

3.2.2 Mode 2

3.2.1.1 Functional Requirement 1.1

...

...

3.2.n Mode n

...

3.3 Performance Requirements

Remember to state this in measurable terms!

3.4 Design Constraints

3.4.1 Standards compliance

3.4.2 Hardware limitations

etc.

3.5 Software System Attributes

3.5.1 Reliability

3.5.2 Availability

3.5.3 Security

3.5.4 Maintainability

3.5.5 Portability

3.6 Other Requirements

RE in Agile Methods

□ Basic Philosophy

- Reduce communication barriers
Programmer interacts with customer
- Reduce document-heavy approach
Documentation is expensive and of limited use
- Have faith in the people
Don't need fancy process models to tell them what to do!
- Respond to the customer
Rather than focussing on the contract

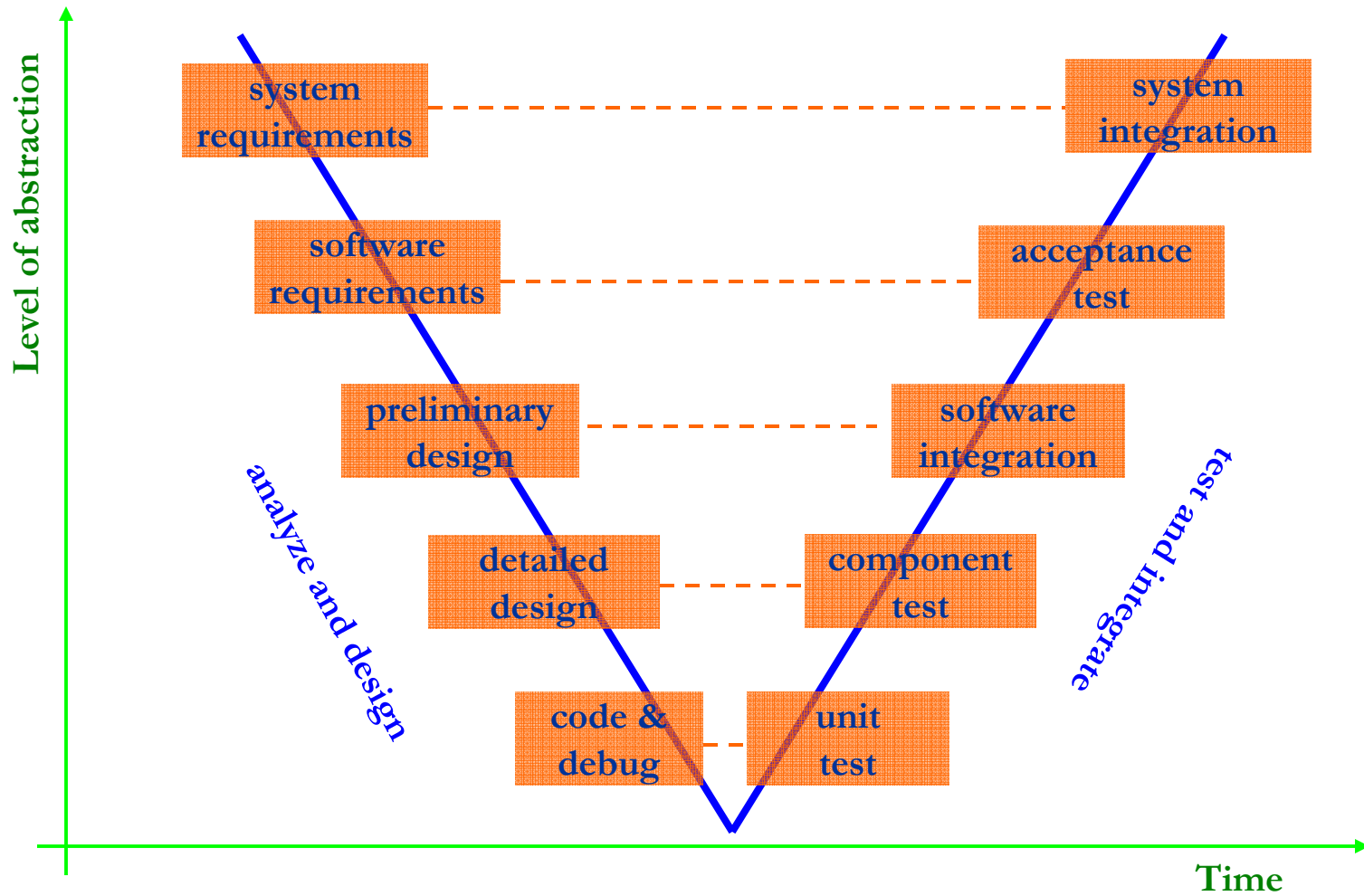
□ Weaknesses

- Relies on programmer's memory
Code can be hard to maintain
- Relies on oral communication
Mis-interpretation possible
- Assumes single customer representative
Multiple viewpoints not possible
- Only short term planning
No longer term vision

E.g. Extreme Programming

- Instead of a requirements spec, use:
 - User story cards
 - On-site customer representative
- Pair Programming
- Small releases
 - E.g. every three weeks
- Planning game
 - Select and estimate user story cards at the beginning of each release
- Write test cases before code
- The program code is the design doc
 - Can also use CRC cards (Class-Responsibility-Collaboration)
- Continuous Integration
 - Integrate and test several times a day

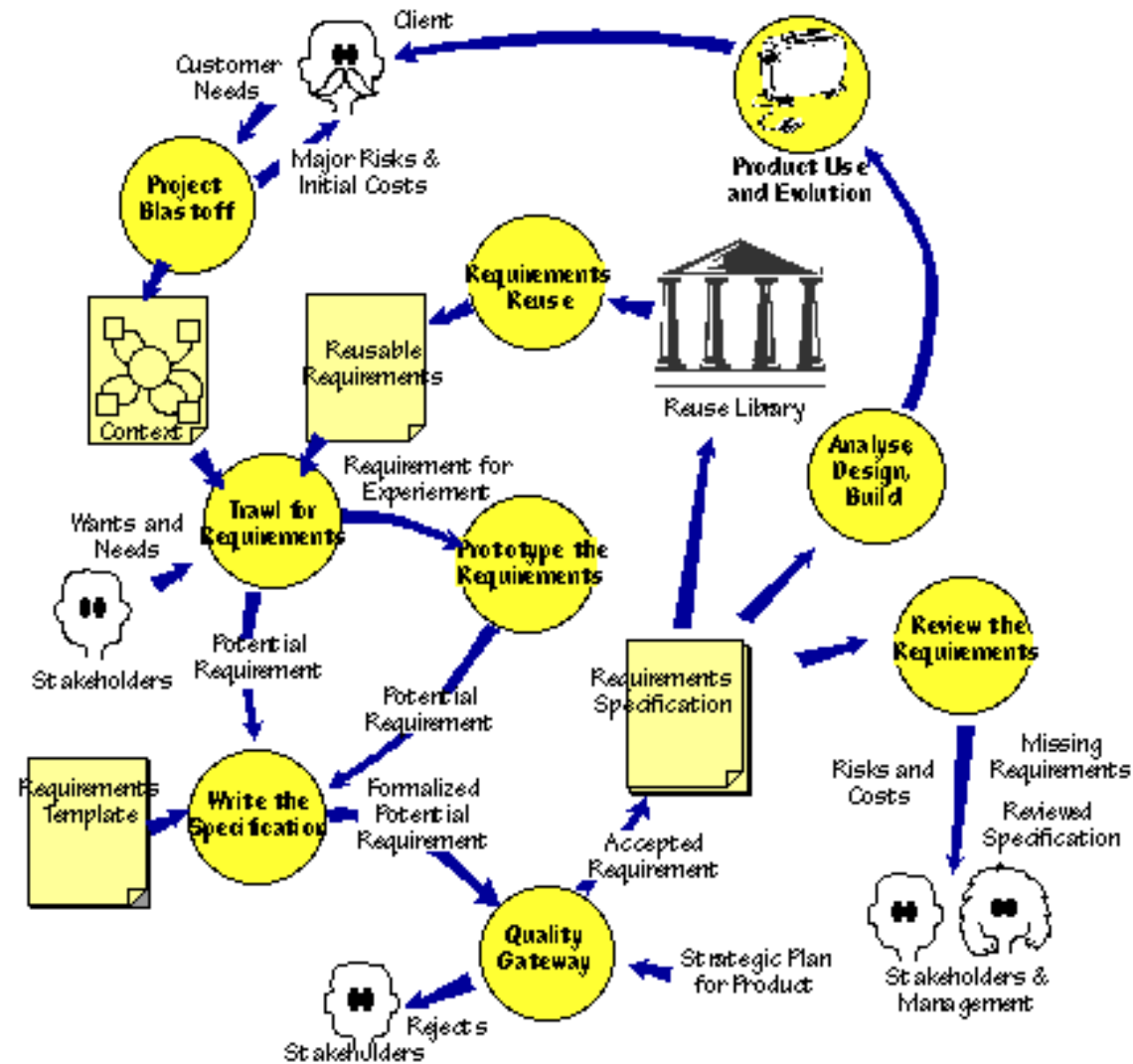
RE in V Model



■ Appendix

RE Processes: Volere Requirements Process

How many cycles? When to analyze and negotiate?



RE Processes: RE Process Variability

Many Variety ...and Evolution is inevitable

- RE processes vary radically from one organisation to another
- Factors contributing to this variability include
 - Technical maturity
 - Disciplinary involvement
 - Organisational culture
 - Application domain
 - ...
- There is therefore no 'ideal' requirements engineering process [KotonyaSummerville98]

NFRs & RE Process: A Requirements Management System

Many variations and extensions

