The University of Iowa
CS:2820 (22C:22)
Object-Oriented Software Development

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Inception

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Inception

Initial short step to establish a common vision and basic scope of the project

- analysis of main use cases (10%)

- analysis of the critical non-functional requirements,

- creation of a business case

- preparation of the development environment

Inception Goals

- Establish initial common vision for the objectives of the project

- Understanding the basic scope and ~10% of the requirements

- Determine if project is feasible

- Decide if it is worth some serious investigation in elaboration

Main Questions

- What is the vision and business case for this project?

- Is the project feasible?

- What should be built vs. bought?

- What is a rough, unreliable cost range? (Is it in the thousands or in the millions of $)?

- Should we proceed or not?

Inception Main Artifacts

- Vision
  - Management level description of project

- Use case model for critical aspects
  - Functional requirements (essential!)

- Glossary
  - Key domain terminology, and data dictionary

- Development case
  - The actual process to be used & artifacts to be delivered

- Others
  - Risk List, Prototypes, Iteration Plan, SW Dev. Plan

Common Mistakes

- Devoting too much time to it

- Defining too few/too many requirements
  - writing lots of detailed use cases, or
  - writing none at all

- Trying to develop reliable plans

- Defining architectural details

- Missing business case or vision artifact

Credits

Notes and figures adapted from

Applying UML and Patterns: An Introduction to Object-Oriented Analysis and Design and Iterative Development by C. Larman. 3rd edition. Prentice Hall/Pearson, 2005.