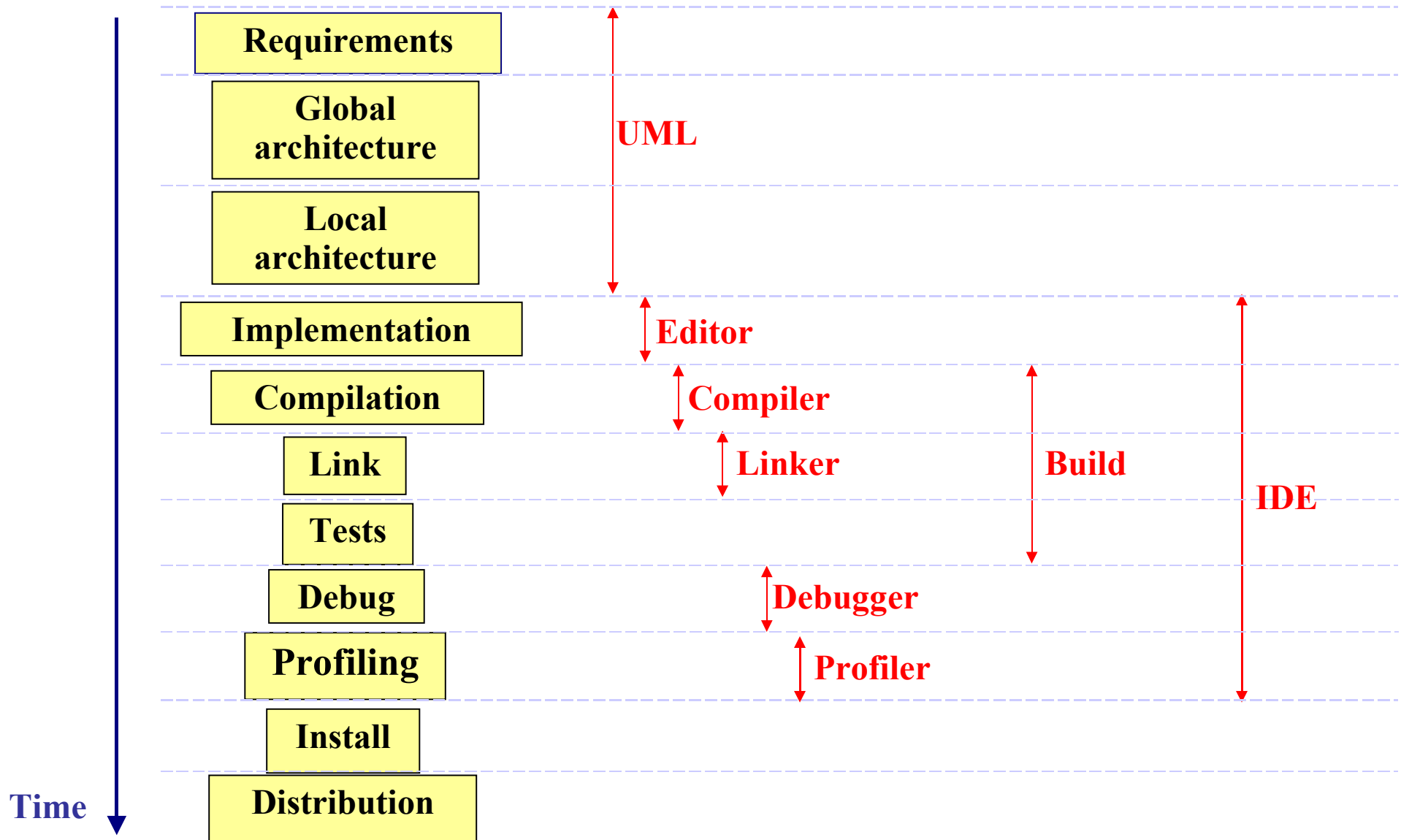


Closing Remarks

DREAM

INSTITUT NATIONAL
DE RECHERCHE
EN INFORMATIQUE
ET EN AUTOMATIQUE





Closing Remarks

Software Development best-practices

- Known as efficient
- Shared and agreed by all members of a development team

Two classes of best-practices

- For pure development activities (day 1)
- For transverse activities (day 2)



Development best-practices - 1

Specifications and Design

- Not wasted time
- Build on well-known and widely accepted elements : design patterns, language idioms
- All documents are under version control

Build

- Learn how libraries work on the target platform
- Use GNU make for small projects
- Automate all operations

Debug

- Ask other people when no progress is made
- Use the right tool(s): static analysis, debuggers, memory checkers



Development best-practices - 2

Tests

- Do the easy work first:
 - Simple input combinations
 - Boundary conditions
- Begin with white-box testing
- Automate test execution and reporting: start with a simple and easy mechanism

Performance and profiling

- No optimization without first profiling
- No premature optimization
- No over-optimization



Best-practices in transverse activities

Progressive improvement

- Practice
- Accept that learning takes time
- 2 levels of best-practices to start with



First level

Simple planning of development work

- Define and schedule the work over short periods (eg. a week)
- Use specifications to define work
- Re-schedule frequently and regularly

Use versioning systems

- Useful also for a single person (we are **always** part of a team)
- Create a project on the Inria Forge



Second level

Advanced Planning

- Schedule over long periods of time
- Use task/subtask decomposition
- Track progress

Documentation

- Design and implementation
 - Simple and short documents: revise them frequently
 - Build over standard knowledge: design pattern, language idioms, etc.
- API documentation
 - Use documentation extraction tools
- Develop examples and ready to use code from the use-cases (specifications)



Resources

Document : “Un processus de développement logiciel pour l'INRIA”

<http://www-sop.inria.fr/dream/rapports/devprocess/index.html>



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