

Towards a Model of Awareness Support of Software Development in GSD

Authored by

James Chisan
Daniela Damian

University of Victoria

May 2004

A Lack of Awareness

- Change occurs through development
- News is propagated through informal chat
- Too ad hoc, too piecemeal
- Formal documentation: too slow

Symptom: Information stalls

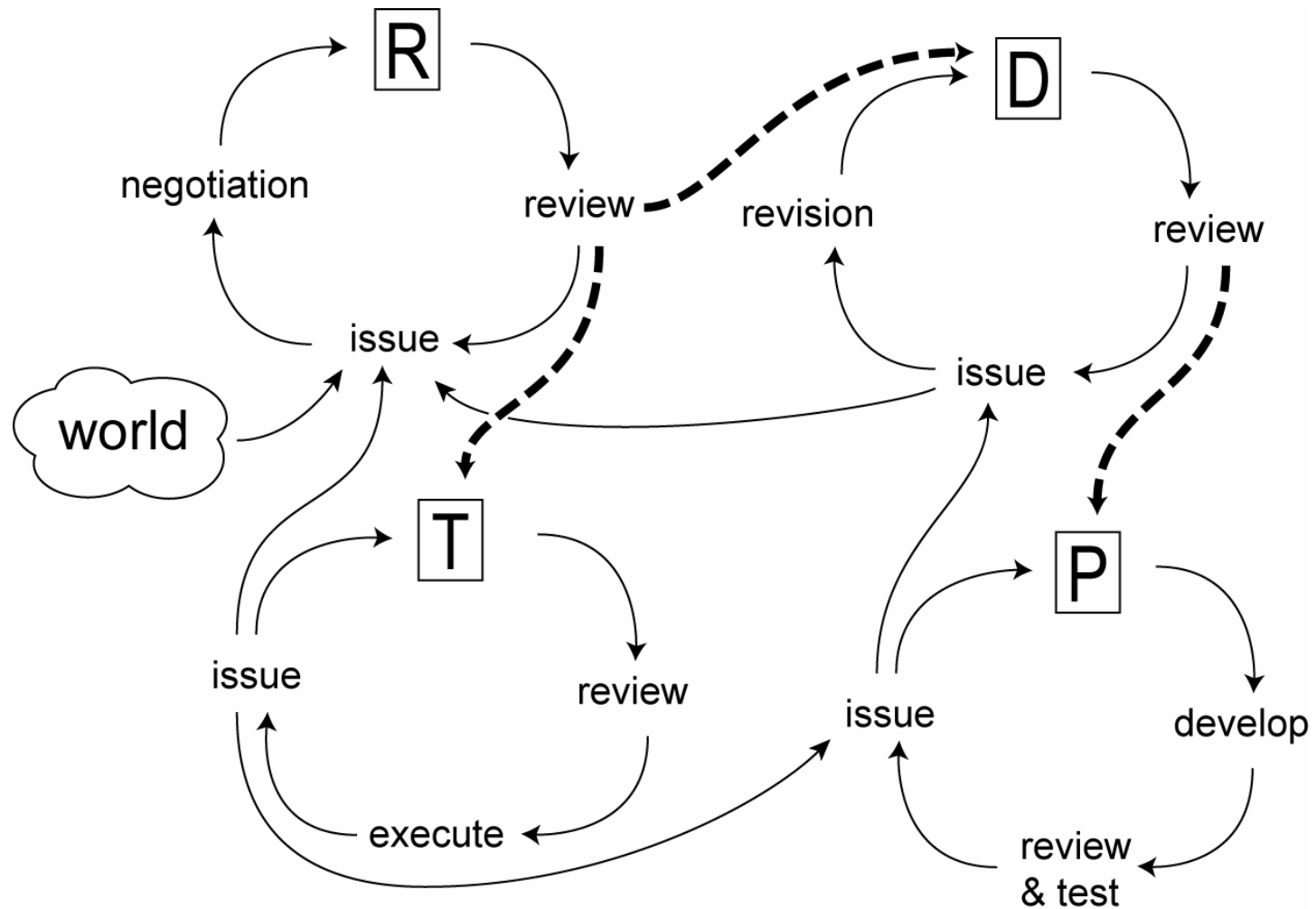
- Documents not updated
- Developers stop referring to documents
- No reason to update documents

- Exacerbated in GSD where informal communication unable to compensate

Purpose of a Model

- Shows typical communication patterns during development
- Highlights where failure occurs
- Indicates the possibility for compensation
- Awareness the answer?
 - Motivates document updates
 - Keeps readers reading
 - Single, central, organized medium for communication

The Model



Debatable issues

- Is the model accurate?
- Does it lose too much information?
- Other Threats?

Future Research

Long-term Plans:

- Refine the model
- Obtain industrial feedback
- Prototype an initial system
- Deploy and refine

- Thank You!