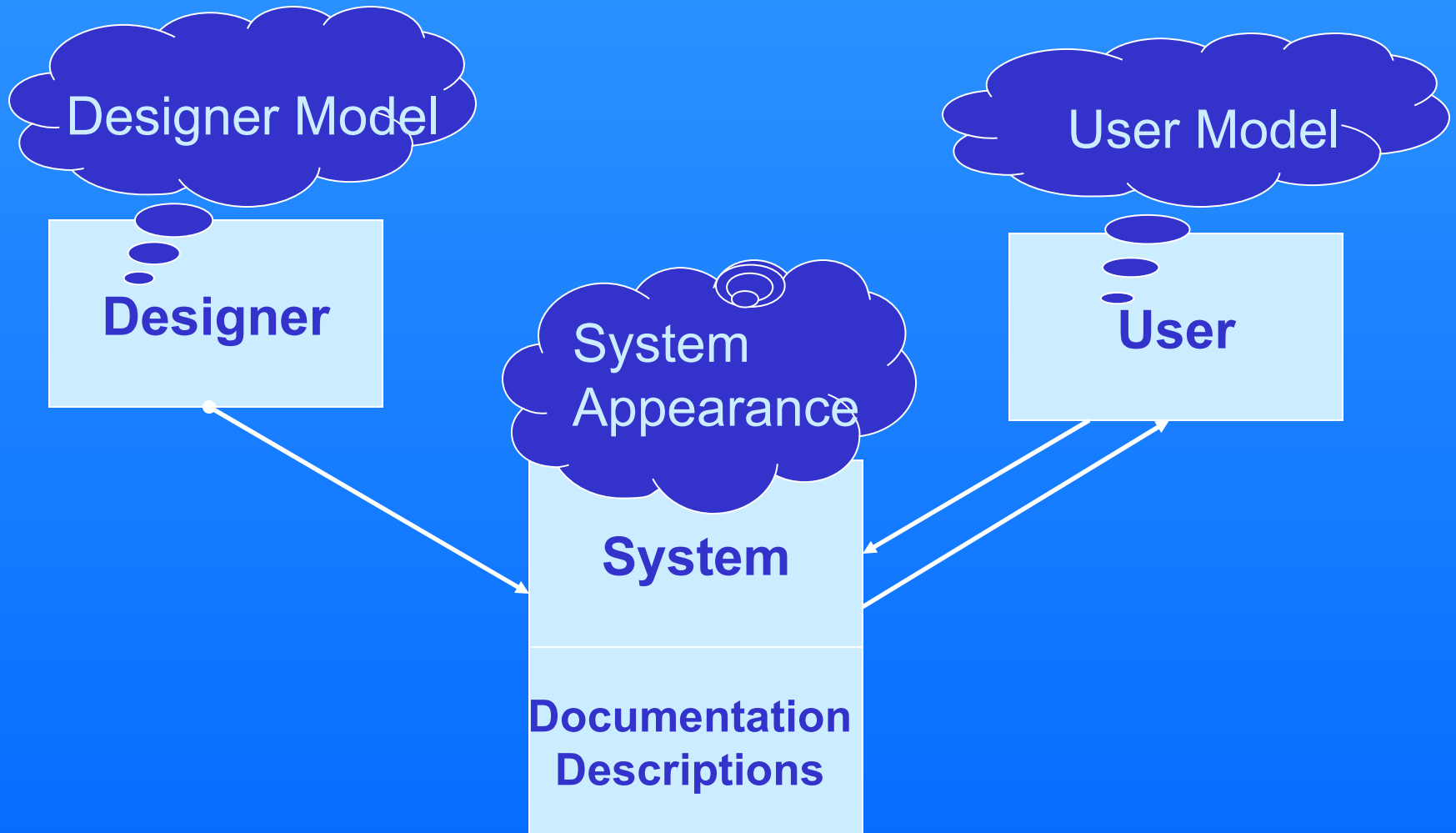


Conceptual Models for Software Engineering

Conceptual Models



Conceptual Models

- The design model is the conceptual model of the designer
- The system appearance is created by the (physical) structure of the system and its documentation
- The user model is the conceptual model the user constructs from interacting with the system and its documentation
- The model of the designer and the user don't have necessarily to correspond

Conceptual Models

By a conceptual model is meant:

“a description of the proposed system in terms of a set of integrated ideas and concepts about what it should do behave and look like, that will be understandable by the users in a manner intended.”

Preece, Rogers & Sharp 2002: 40

Conceptual Models

To develop a conceptual model involves

- envisioning the proposed product
- base it on the users' needs
- ensure that it is designed to be understandable in the manner intended

Conclusion

- Conceptual design refers to how designers and users imagine products and the way they (should) work
- To support conceptual design conceptual models are used
- Conceptual models are based on users' needs