

PART I - Introduction

Intro

When software is done right

- It requires a fraction of the human resources to create and maintain
- Changes are simple and rapid
- Defects are few and far between
- Effort is minimized, and functionality and flexibility are maximized

Design == Architecture

The goal of software architecture

to minimize the human resources required to build and maintain the required system.

1. What is Design and Architecture?

Metrics

Headcount

Product size in Lines of Codes

Cost / LOC

? Is it really a good metric? In large products new features could reduce LOCs due to refactoring / redesign

👍 I believe better metric is earned value (see EVM)

👍 TDD reduces time to competition (experiment has shown)

👍 The only way to go fast, is to go well

But - not redesign everything from scratch

🚫 Overconfidence will drive the redesign into the same mess as the original project.

Two values of software

Behaviour (function)

to satisfy stakeholders' requirements

implement the requirements

fix any bugs

Structure (architecture)

difficulty of making change should be proportional to the scope, not to the "shape" of the change

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2. A Tale of Two Values

⚠️ Ease of change is more important!

? What practices help?

I think

- Agile processes
- Autotests + Mocks
- Automated CI/CD
- Local environments
- IDE + Debuggers
- Logging
- Monorepo
- Planning/documenting design details in advance
- Pluggable/unpluggable features
- Decoupling of components
- Generics or Codegenerators
- Design Patterns
- ???

Eisenhower's Matrix

The urgent are not important Behaviour

The important are never urgent Architecture

Software Developer

Is a stakeholder

Should be more focused on architecture rather than behaviour

⚠️ Should fight for it with other stakeholders!