

Return On Software Maximizing The Return On Your Software Investment

With the majority of IT projects being delivered late, over budget, or cancelled altogether, it is clear that traditional project management methodologies do not provide an effective framework for today's IT projects. It is evident that a new Return-on-Investment (ROI) oriented approach is required that focuses on the ROI of a project fro

Mathematica is a scientific software dedicated to symbolic and numerical calculus, developed by a team directed by Stephen Wolfram. The potential applications are extremely wide and may comprise, for example, pure and applied Mathematics, Statistics, Economics, Finance and Engineering. The first version 1.0 was published on 1988 while the current version 10.0 was released on 2014.

Mathematica also permits to develop sophisticated program code thanks to its own syntax and besides, it can be used as a highly accurate text Editor. This book is a complete and up-to-date guide to Mathematica Software. Contents:

Introduction, Linear Algebra, Functions of a real variable, Functions of several variables, Implicit functions theorem, Unconstrained optimization, Constrained optimization, Ordinary differential equations and systems, Dynamic optimization, Stochastic calculus, Financial Applications, etc.

A catalog of solutions to commonly occurring design problems, presenting 23 patterns that allow designers to create flexible and reusable designs for object-oriented software. Describes the circumstances in which each pattern is applicable, and discusses the consequences and trade-offs of using the pattern within a larger design. Patterns are

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compiled from real systems, and include code for implementation in object-oriented programming languages like C++ and Smalltalk. Includes a bibliography. Annotation copyright by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

Are you up for the job-search challenge? Now, more than ever, you must be committed to an employment strategy with clearly defined career goals, and thorough research on your desired employer. Begin to think like a HR Professional and use social media, in-person networking, creativity and professionalism to Get in the Door!

What company doesn't want energized workers, delighted customers, genuine efficiency, and breakthrough innovation?

The Lean Mindset shows how lean companies really work—and how a lean mindset is the key to creating stunning products and delivering amazing services. Through cutting-edge research and case studies from leading organizations, including Spotify, Ericsson, Intuit, GE Healthcare, Pixar, CareerBuilder, and Intel, you'll discover proven patterns for developing that mindset. You'll see how to cultivate product teams that act like successful startups, create the kind of efficiency that attracts customers, and leverage the talents of bright, creative people. The Poppendiecks weave lean principles throughout this book, just as those principles must be woven throughout the fabric of your truly lean organization. Learn How To Start with an inspiring purpose, and overcome the curse of short-term thinking Energize teams by providing well-framed challenges, larger purposes, and a direct line of sight between their work and the achievement of those purposes Delight customers by gaining unprecedented insight into their real needs, and building products and services that fully anticipate those needs Achieve authentic, sustainable efficiency without layoffs, rock-bottom cost focus, or totalitarian work systems Develop breakthrough innovations by moving beyond predictability to

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experimentation, beyond globalization to decentralization, beyond productivity to impact Lean approaches to software development have moved from novelty to widespread use, in large part due to the principles taught by Mary and Tom Poppendieck in their pioneering books. Now, in *The Lean Mindset*, the Poppendiecks take the next step, looking at a company where multidiscipline teams are expected to ask the right questions, solve the right problems, and deliver solutions that customers love.

Effective science teaching requires creativity, imagination, and innovation. In light of concerns about American science literacy, scientists and educators have struggled to teach this discipline more effectively. *Science Teaching Reconsidered* provides undergraduate science educators with a path to understanding students, accommodating their individual differences, and helping them grasp the methods--and the wonder--of science. What impact does teaching style have? How do I plan a course curriculum? How do I make lectures, classes, and laboratories more effective? How can I tell what students are thinking? Why don't they understand? This handbook provides productive approaches to these and other questions. Written by scientists who are also educators, the handbook offers suggestions for having a greater impact in the classroom and provides resources for further research.

"Business analysis involves understanding how organizations function to accomplish their purposes and defining the capabilities an organization requires to provide products and services to external stakeholders. ... [This guide contains] a framework that describes the business analysis tasks that must be performed in order to understand how a solution will deliver value to the sponsoring organization." - page 3.

Agile development processes foster better collaboration, innovation, and results. So why limit their use to software projects—when you can transform your entire business?

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Written by agile-mentoring expert Jochen Krebs, this book illuminates the opportunities—and rewards—of applying agile processes to your overall IT portfolio. Whether project manager, business analyst, or executive—you'll understand the business drivers behind agile portfolio management. And learn best practices for optimizing results. Use agile processes to align IT and business strategy Adapt and extend core agile processes Orchestrate the collaboration between IT and business vision Eliminate wish-list driven requirements, and manage expectations instead Optimize the balance of projects, resources, and assets in your portfolio Use metrics to communicate project status, quality, even team morale Create a portfolio strategy consistent with the goals of the organization Achieve organizational and process transparency Manage your business with agility—and help maximize the returns!

Aspen Plus is one of the most popular process simulation software programs used industrially and academically. Though the software is available at many corporations and universities, there are no textbooks which are dedicated to teaching the step-by-step use of the software. This book is designed to fill that need. The structure of the book is unique in that it emulates a lecture /workshop classroom environment. Each chapter starts with the equivalent of a classroom lecture followed by workshops which provide experience in the chapter's subject matter. The enclosed CD contains solutions, both in Aspen Plus and text formats, to examples imbedded in the text as well as to all the workshops. There are also notes at the end of each chapter designed to aid readers that have difficulty with the workshops. Note: CD-ROM/DVD and other supplementary materials are not included as part of eBook file.

The IT community has always struggled with questions concerning the value of an organization's investment in

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software and hardware. It is the goal of value-based software engineering (VBSE) to develop models and measures of value which are of use for managers, developers and users as they make tradeoff decisions between, for example, quality and cost or functionality and schedule – such decisions must be economically feasible and comprehensible to the stakeholders with differing value perspectives. VBSE has its roots in work on software engineering economics, pioneered by Barry Boehm in the early 1980s. However, the emergence of a wider scope that defines VBSE is more recent. VBSE extends the merely technical ISO software engineering definition with elements not only from economics, but also from cognitive science, finance, management science, behavioral sciences, and decision sciences, giving rise to a truly multi-disciplinary framework. Biffel and his co-editors invited leading researchers and structured their contributions into three parts, following an introduction into the area by Boehm himself. They first detail the foundations of VBSE, followed by a presentation of state-of-the-art methods and techniques. The third part demonstrates the benefits of VBSE through concrete examples and case studies. This book deviates from the more anecdotal style of many management-oriented software engineering books and so appeals particularly to all readers who are interested in solid foundations for high-level aspects of software engineering decision making, i.e., to product or project managers driven by economics and to software engineering researchers and students.

Return on Software: Maximizing the Return on Your Software Investment is about making choices: software technical choices in a business context. It helps software professionals appreciate the business consequences of the decisions they make. This primer will prove a valuable reference for making the important decisions the typical software organization

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faces both today and down the road. Each chapter contains a set of self-study questions designed to help you apply the featured concepts and techniques. An enhanced online index allows you to quickly and easily search the entire text for specific topics.

This volume of *Advances in Computers* is number 66 in the series that began back in 1960. This series presents the ever changing landscape in the continuing evolution of the development of the computer and the field of information processing. Each year three volumes are produced presenting approximately 20 chapters that describe the latest technology in the use of computers today. Volume 66, subtitled "Quality software development," is concerned about the current need to create quality software. It describes the current emphasis in techniques for creating such software and in methods to demonstrate that the software indeed meets the expectations of the designers and purchasers of that software. In-depth surveys and tutorials on software development approaches Well-known authors and researchers in the field Extensive bibliographies with most chapters All chapters focus on software development issues Discussion of high end computing applications, a topic generally not understood by most software professionals "In 2016, Social Security rules changed radically. Do you know how - and how these changes might apply to you? Americans have left literally billions of Social Security dollars on the table - benefits we have earned, are eligible to take, but simply aren't aware of. Fully revised and carefully updated in light of the new law, *Get What's Yours* is the indispensable guide to collecting the maximum Social Security benefits possible."--Page [4] of cover.

Maximize Utility ("MU") is, on the surface, a review of contemporary monetary and macroeconomics ("M&M"). It is really a broader summary of the economy, markets, investing

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and government economic policy, and how these economywide forces affect the lives of everyday people and the economic success of households. MU highlights the limitations of M&M fiscal and monetary policies, active investment management and the myriad government programs designed to improve the economic well-being of people. MU reveals the tenuous nature of the models historically taught in M&M, that our current M&M canon is defunct and that we instituting ad hoc M&M policy with the hope that our future economic output will suffice for all the commitments we have made. Indeed, M&M parables and models are insightful about national economies, especially their historical development. M&M does not, however, constitute a body of scientific ideas to perform successful proactive government M&M policy and to engender greater economic output by the macroeconomic manipulations of interest rates and aggregate demand. Economic policy advocates, whether conservative or liberal, break on prejudices. The prevailing intellectual economic prejudice in America today, perhaps more than in any other society, is Keynesianism. American society perceives spending as the source of greater economic output. The other major player in our economic lives - the investment community or "Wall Street" - has been inordinately successful in the period from about 1980 until the present, i.e. over the lifetimes of the people who currently run America. Portfolios of assets, including stocks, bonds and real estate, have yielded high rates of return. This era was a unique period of asset price increases motivated by a fortuitous combination of underlying economic and social conditions. Through Wall Street and our central bank we have valued every asset to its maximum. We bet our economic future on the continuation of rising asset valuations. Future returns will be much lower, however, and we will face constant government budget shortfalls and

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related insolvencies like those of many pensions. In America we admire our central bank for managing the macroeconomy and we admire Wall Street for providing high rates of return but both are illusions. Our M&M story is largely a generational story about a generation that borrowed against the future of its children. Maximize Utility reveals the rightness of microeconomics. People are competent to manage their lives. To the extent they cannot, it is largely the result of a plethora of government interventions into education, family formation, healthcare, retirement, housing and labor markets. Our government patronizes our people extremely. Microeconomic parables are singular. Substitution, choice, preferences, technology, profit, marginal product, optimality, etc. are great ideas to think about our economic lives and how to run a household and live a fulfilling life. People need no nudges or supervisions of their choices. MU is three thrusts. It is a review of current economic conditions, a short text on M&M concepts and a section on methods in social and business science. MU is designed to be a reference book to accompany a textbook in course like economics, macroeconomics, monetary economics and various finance and international economics courses. MU is updated through 2016.

An advisor to many of today's most successful wealth creators explains how to align your values with your wealth, including the ways in which it is earned, managed, and spent, to maximize both wealth and personal fulfillment. • Answers the call from the new crop of millionaires who are concerned not only with financial wealth but also with having a personally meaningful life • Speaks directly to the needs of a new breed of wealth creators in one integrated volume • Addresses the unique challenges that come with rapidly building assets from the dual perspectives of practical financial management and personal fulfillment • Provides the services of a life coach to

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wealthy readers, allowing them to reap some of the same benefits as the author's many successful and happy clients. For more than 40 years, Computerworld has been the leading source of technology news and information for IT influencers worldwide. Computerworld's award-winning Web site (Computerworld.com), twice-monthly publication, focused conference series and custom research form the hub of the world's largest global IT media network.

“Read Jack Ablin’s ‘five factor’ approach to investing and you not only will sleep better at night, you’ll be a smarter, wiser human being. Ablin takes you on his twenty-year journey toward a unified, rational approach to investing that can help you weather even the most turbulent financial storms. This book may be one of the best investments you will ever make.” --John Callaway, Senior Correspondent, WTTW, Public Television “This book is based on verifiable data trends and years of experience with a broad array of economic and market numbers. Regret over investment losses need not lead investors to disengage their brains or to be robbed again by schemes hawked as ‘new and improved.’ Reading Minds and Markets will help jump-start an honest investment dialogue that has been sidetracked by excesses of greed and fear.” --Bill Barnhart, Former Financial Editor and Columnist for the Chicago Tribune “The author has taken the complex world of investing and provided an extremely practical approach to success where others have failed miserably. His grasp of the financial markets makes him eminently qualified to develop an extremely sound and practical approach in order to protect and enhance wealth for investors.”

--Edward (“Ned”) Riley, Jr., Former Chief Investment

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Officer for State Street Global Advisors and Chief Investment Officer, Riley Asset Management “With nearly three decades of experience, Jack Ablin’s superb intellectual thinking is reflected in *Reading Minds and Markets*. This is great reading for the motivated investor.” --Professor Israel Shaked, Finance and Economics Department, Boston University, School of Management

You can do more to protect yourself from market risks and down markets. The secret: Understand the big picture and know when to shift money toward more promising industry groups, sectors, or asset classes. This strategy is called “global macro investing”--and, as Chief Investment Officer for Harris Private Bank, Jack Ablin has used it to deliver results for many of the world’s wealthiest families and individuals.

In *Reading Minds and Markets*, Ablin distills his techniques into a remarkably simple, commonsense five-step plan that any investor can use. You’ll discover how to anticipate some of the more significant shifts in global markets and move investments toward areas that are more likely to grow. Equally important, you’ll learn how to overcome bad habits that inevitably lead to failure--habits all too often reinforced by the financial media. In today’s unforgiving markets, you need to make smarter high-level decisions and fewer mistakes: This book will help you do both. Why you must take a top-down view of the market--and how to do it Avoid getting caught off-guard in choppy, highly volatile markets Respond to the market’s powerful signals about relative risk Master strategies for improving return without increasing risk Discover the five factors that consistently

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tell you where to invest Cut through the clutter of irrelevant data: find what matters and use it Stop being your own worst enemy Overcome the #1 obstacle to structuring your best portfolio: human nature

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Generate impact by communicating effectively to external audiences: the media, policy makers, practitioners and alumni. There are many potential benefits, including: * Visibility for your institution * Impacting policy * Shaping opinions * Research funding * Career growth: speaking engagements, consulting gigs and book deals The problem is that many academics and researchers haven't been "media trained" - both in terms of traditional and digital media. In *Maximize Your Impact*, communications consultant and media trainer Kevin Anselmo helps you to: * Think through your objectives. * Increase visibility by delivering your message in media interviews. * Promote your work by creating content on your own channel. * Enhance your network via social media channels.

The complexity of media that now sees multiple channels accessed through multiple devices has created major challenges for today's marketing and advertising professionals. Consumer time is split between TVs, laptops, iPads, X-Boxes and smartphones, with traditional media, websites, videos, social networks and apps all competing for attention, meaning it's difficult for brands to decide how best to reach and engage their audiences. Paid, Owned, Earned defines the constituents of each area of 'paid', 'owned' and 'earned' media and shows how they are linked together. It

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proposes a blueprint for how to think and navigate across this space using a framework made up of key elements such as communities and content, social media optimisation, seeding and viral distribution, broadcast mass media, social performance media and measurement.

The concept of focusing more on the concept of value is the hot topic right now in PMI and other project management organizations - and books on the subject have sold very well. Berman has an active speaking schedule and is a prominent expert in the field.

Succeed with Scrum in Even the Largest, Most Complex Distributed Development Projects Forewords by Ken Schwaber, Scott Ambler, Roman Pichler, and Matthew Wang This is the first comprehensive, practical guide for Scrum practitioners working in large-scale distributed environments. Written by three of IBM's leading Scrum practitioners—in close collaboration with the IBM QSE Scrum Community of more than 1000 members worldwide—this book offers specific, actionable guidance for everyone who wants to succeed with Scrum in the enterprise. Readers will follow a journey through the lifecycle of a distributed Scrum project, from envisioning products and setting up teams to preparing for Sprint planning and running retrospectives. Each chapter presents a baseline drawn from “conventional” Scrum, then discusses additional issues faced by distributed teams, and presents specific best-practice solutions, alternatives, and tips the authors have identified through hard, empirical experience. Using real-world examples, the book demonstrates how to apply key Scrum

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practices, such as look-ahead planning in geographically distributed environments. Readers will also gain valuable new insights into the agile management of complex problem and technical domains. Coverage includes

- Developing user stories and working with Product Owners as a distributed team
- Recognizing and fixing the flaws Scrum may reveal in existing processes
- Engaging in more efficient Release and Sprint planning
- Conducting intense, brief daily Scrum meetings in distributed environments
- Managing cultural and language differences
- Resolving dependencies, performing frequent integration, and maintaining transparency in geographically distributed environments
- Successfully running remote software reviews and demos
- Brainstorming what worked and what didn't, to improve future Sprints

This book will be an indispensable resource for every team leader, member, product owner, or manager working with Scrum or other agile methods in any distributed software development organization.

In business, driving value is a key strategy and typically starts at the top of an organization. In today's digital age, driving software value is also an important, and often overlooked, key strategy. Executives, and the corporate board, need to expect the highest level of business value from the software the organization is developing, buying, and selling. In today's digital transformation marketplace, it is imperative that organizations start driving business value from software development initiatives. For many years, the cost of software development challenged organizations with questions such as: How do we allocate software

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development costs? Should these costs be considered an overhead expense? Are we getting the most value possible for our investment? A fundamental problem has been built into these questions – the focus on cost. In almost every other part of the organization, maximizing profit or, in the case of a not-for-profit, maximizing the funds available, provides a clear focus with metrics to determine success or failure. In theory, simply aligning software spending with the maximizing profit goals should be sufficient to avoid any questions about value for money. Unfortunately, this alignment hasn't turned out to be so simple, and the questions persist, particularly at the strategic or application portfolio level. In this book, Michael D.S. Harris describes how a software business value culture—one where all stakeholders, including technology and business—have a clear understanding of the goals and expected business value from software development. The book shows readers how they can transform software development from a cost or profit center to a business value center. Only a culture of software as a value center enables an organization to constantly maximize business value flow through software development. If your organization is starting to ask how it can change software from a cost-center to a value-center, this book is for you. Learning to use SAS Enterprise Guide has never been easier! Whether you are using SAS Enterprise Guide for the first time, or are looking to expand your skills, this is the book for you! With *The Little SAS Enterprise Guide Book*, award-winning authors Susan Slaughter and Lora Delwiche help you quickly become productive in the SAS

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Enterprise Guide point-and-click environment. A series of carefully designed tutorials help you master the basics of the tasks you'll want to do most frequently. The reference section of the book expands on the tutorial topics, covering specific features in more depth. This edition has been completely rewritten, and updated with new features in SAS Enterprise Guide.

Software maintenance work is often considered a dauntingly rigid activity – this book proves the opposite: it demands high levels of creativity and thinking outside the box. Highlighting the creative aspects of software maintenance and combining analytical and systems thinking in a holistic manner, the book motivates readers not to blithely follow the beaten tracks of “technical rationality”. It delivers the content in a pragmatic fashion using case studies which are woven into long running story lines. The book is organized in four parts, which can be read in any order, except for the first chapter, which introduces software maintenance and evolution and presents a number of case studies of software failures. The “Introduction to Key Concepts” briefly introduces the major elements of software maintenance by highlighting various core concepts that are vital in order to see the forest for the trees. Each such concept is illustrated with a worked example. Next, the “Forward Engineering” part debunks the myth that being fast and successful during initial development is all that matters. To this end, two categories of forward engineering are considered: an inept initial project with a multitude of hard evolutionary phases and an effective initial project with multiple straightforward future increments.

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“Reengineering and Reverse Engineering” shows the difficulties of dealing with a typical legacy system, and tackles tasks such as retrofitting tests, documenting a system, restructuring a system to make it amenable for further improvements, etc. Lastly, the “DevOps” section focuses on the importance and benefits of crossing the development versus operation chasm and demonstrates how the DevOps paradigm can turn a loosely coupled design into a loosely deployable solution. The book is a valuable resource for readers familiar with the Java programming language, and with a basic understanding and/or experience of software construction and testing. Packed with examples for every elaborated concept, it offers complementary material for existing courses and is useful for students and professionals alike.

Choose statistically significant stock selection models using SAS® Portfolio and Investment Analysis with SAS®: Financial Modeling Techniques for Optimization is an introduction to using SAS to choose statistically significant stock selection models, create mean-variance efficient portfolios, and aggressively invest to maximize the geometric mean. Based on the pioneering portfolio selection techniques of Harry Markowitz and others, this book shows that maximizing the geometric mean maximizes the utility of final wealth. The authors draw on decades of experience as teachers and practitioners of financial modeling to bridge the gap between theory and application. Using real-world data, the book illustrates the concept of risk-return analysis and explains why intelligent investors prefer stocks over bonds. The authors first explain how to build expected return models

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based on expected earnings data, valuation ratios, and past stock price performance using PROC ROBUSTREG. They then show how to construct and manage portfolios by combining the expected return and risk models. Finally, readers learn how to perform hypothesis testing using Bayesian methods to add confidence when data mining from large financial databases.

Are you ready to Maximize Your Return on Life? Shari Greco Reiches is a storyteller by nature. Her personal stories and related exercises will inspire you to Maximize Your Return on Life by learning how to spend your time and money on what you value most. The book explores: * Your early and profound memories of money-memories that shape your relationship with money today. * Your Core Values-how to identify them and let them guide you in important decisions about how you spend your time and money. * Understandable strategies on financial planning and investing. * How to ensure that your loved ones are protected. * Teaching the next generation about smart money habits that will provide peace of mind for everyone. * Gratitude-appreciating the things and people that matter most, especially when times are tough. Each chapter will provide a path forward as you Maximize Your Return on Life.

Agile Estimating and Planning is the definitive, practical guide to estimating and planning agile projects. In this book, Agile Alliance cofounder Mike Cohn discusses the philosophy of agile estimating and planning and shows you exactly how to get the job done, with real-world examples and case studies. Concepts are clearly

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illustrated and readers are guided, step by step, toward how to answer the following questions: What will we build? How big will it be? When must it be done? How much can I really complete by then? You will first learn what makes a good plan-and then what makes it agile. Using the techniques in Agile Estimating and Planning , you can stay agile from start to finish, saving time, conserving resources, and accomplishing more. Highlights include: Why conventional prescriptive planning fails and why agile planning works How to estimate feature size using story points and ideal days—and when to use each How and when to re-estimate How to prioritize features using both financial and nonfinancial approaches How to split large features into smaller, more manageable ones How to plan iterations and predict your team's initial rate of progress How to schedule projects that have unusually high uncertainty or schedule-related risk How to estimate projects that will be worked on by multiple teams Agile Estimating and Planning supports any agile, semiagile, or iterative process, including Scrum, XP, Feature-Driven Development, Crystal, Adaptive Software Development, DSDM, Unified Process, and many more. It will be an indispensable resource for every development manager, team leader, and team member.

This book will teach you, the software student, practitioner and/or manager, how to become competitive in the global resource pool in which we reside. In sometimes humorous, mostly direct conversation, this book discusses understanding the customer, serving the customer, and learning to discern what really matters

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along the way by exploring some difficult and often unpopular subjects: · The professional software talent pool is truly global and we are only grains of sand on a world beach · There is more value in seeing the forest than worshipping the tree · Know when to solve a problem, when to simplify, and when to be quiet · Delivering a technical solution is a social problem · Overpay the right people for the right reasons · Serve the customer and provide immediate value or someone else will

"Mastering the Requirements Process: Getting Requirements Right" sets out an industry-proven process for gathering and verifying requirements, regardless of whether you work in a traditional or agile development environment. In this sweeping update of the bestselling guide, the authors show how to discover precisely what the customer wants and needs, in the most efficient manner possible.

"Mun demystifies real options analysis and delivers a powerful, pragmatic guide for decision-makers and practitioners alike. Finally, there is a book that equips professionals to easily recognize, value, and seize real options in the world around them." --Jim Schreckengast, Senior VP, R&D Strategy, Gemplus International SA, France Completely revised and updated to meet the challenges of today's dynamic business environment, Real Options Analysis, Second Edition offers you a fresh look at evaluating capital investment strategies by taking the strategic decision-making process into consideration. This comprehensive guide provides both a qualitative and quantitative description of real options; the methods

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used in solving real options; why and when they are used; and the applicability of these methods in decision making.

Step-by-step guidance to achieving maximum return on investment for your company Written by Arthur Worster, Thomas Weirich, and Frank Andera, industry experts at the forefront of the business processes

arena, Maximizing Return on Investment Using ERP Applications provides accountants, IT executives, and finance professionals with a new way of looking at enterprise resource planning (ERP)-driven business improvement programs. This timely book explores how leadership can view its organization as an integrated enterprise and what this change in perception might suggest. It considers various aspects of running a business and how a different approach may present new insight. Incorporates all aspects of gaining "Return on Investment" from ERP investments Considers change management from all angles, including working with the executive levels on defining return on investment cases, working through political and cultural issues at the executive leadership level Includes a companion website featuring exercises, reference materials, and case studies With the rapid implementation of ERP systems worldwide, business executives often have difficulty in determining the return on investment from such systems. Along with a companion website featuring exercises, reference materials, and case studies, Maximizing Return on Investment Using ERP Applications offers straightforward and hands-on guidance to lead your organization through the change process and

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ensure that the intended benefits can be achieved. Maximizing ROI on Software Development explains how to execute best quality software development and testing while maximizing business value. It discusses Applied ROI in the context of methodologies such as Agile and Extreme Programming, and traditional methodologies including Six Sigma, the Capability Maturity Model (CMM), Total Cost of Ownership

Whether to continue using traditional cost and benefit analysis methods such as systems and software engineering standards or to use a relatively new family of software development processes known as Agile methods is one of the most prevalent questions within the information technology field today. Since each family of methods has its strengths and weaknesses, the question being raised by a growing number of executives and practitioners is: Which family of methods provides the greater business value and return on investment (ROI)? Whereas traditional methods have been in use for many decades, Agile methods are still a new phenomenon and, until now, very little literature has existed on how to quantify the business value of Agile methods in economic terms, such as ROI and net present value (NPV). Using cost of quality, total cost of ownership, and total life cycle cost parameters, *The Business Value of Agile Software Methods* offers a comprehensive methodology and introduces the industry's initial top-down parametric

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models for quantifying the costs and benefits of using Agile methods to create innovative software products. Based on real-world data, it illustrates the first simple-to-use parametric models of Real Options for estimating the business value of Agile methods since the inception of the Nobel prize winning Black-Scholes formulas. Numerous examples on how to estimate the costs, benefits, ROI, NPV, and real options of the major types of Agile methods such as Scrum, Extreme Programming and Crystal Methods are also included. In addition, this reference provides the first comprehensive compilation of cost and benefit data on Agile methods from an analysis of hundreds of research studies. The Business Value of Agile Software Methods shatters key myths and misconceptions surrounding the modern-day phenomenon of Agile methods for creating innovative software products. It provides a complete business value comparison between traditional and Agile methods. The keys to maximizing the business value of any method are low costs and high benefits and the business value of Agile methods, when compared to traditional methods, proves to be very impressive. Agile methods are a new model of project management that can be used to improve the success, business value, and ROI of high-risk and highly complex IT projects in today's dynamic, turbulent, and highly uncertain marketplace. If you

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are an executive, manager, scholar, student, consultant or practitioner currently on the fence, you need to read this book!

This book will change the way you think about and invest in your retirement savings plan-forever.

Internationally bestselling author and consumer advocate Dan Solin challenges some basic and misguided assumptions about traditional retirement plans to reveal that: ? 401(k) and 403(b) plans are laden with Porky Pig fees, poor investment choices, and conflicts of interest. You may be better off just saying "No!" ? There is a simple way to make smart choices in these plans- and this book shows you exactly what to do and which funds to avoid. ? There is one investment that could be the key to a successful retirement plan. You can do it yourself, with pre-tax or after-tax money. Create your own, inflation-proof pension plan that is guaranteed to provide you with monthly income for as long as you live, and beyond! Smart Investing is not complicated. You have the power to make meaningful changes to your retirement savings plan-no matter what your age or financial status. "If you haven't taken a recent look at what your own retirement investments are doing and-perhaps even more important-how they are put together, reading Solin's smart little book might provide the impetus for action." -Miami Herald

A guide to the application of the theory and practice of computing to develop and maintain software that

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economically solves real-world problem How to Engineer Software is a practical, how-to guide that explores the concepts and techniques of model-based software engineering using the Unified Modeling Language. The author—a noted expert on the topic—demonstrates how software can be developed and maintained under a true engineering discipline. He describes the relevant software engineering practices that are grounded in Computer Science and Discrete Mathematics. Model-based software engineering uses semantic modeling to reveal as many precise requirements as possible. This approach separates business complexities from technology complexities, and gives developers the most freedom in finding optimal designs and code. The book promotes development scalability through domain partitioning and subdomain partitioning. It also explores software documentation that specifically and intentionally adds value for development and maintenance. This important book: Contains many illustrative examples of model-based software engineering, from semantic model all the way to executable code Explains how to derive verification (acceptance) test cases from a semantic model Describes project estimation, along with alternative software development and maintenance processes Shows how to develop and maintain cost-effective software that solves real-world problems Written for graduate and undergraduate students in

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software engineering and professionals in the field, How to Engineer Software offers an introduction to applying the theory of computing with practice and judgment in order to economically develop and maintain software.

- Opens the black box of methodologies and demonstrates that software development is fundamentally a value creation process
- Covers new and radical approaches to software development that respond to business demands for shorter investment periods and increased agility
- Provides software engineers tools for understanding enterprise-level value creation and managing financial objectives

“Our job as Scrum professionals is to continually improve our ability to use Scrum to deliver products and services that help customers achieve valuable outcomes. This book will help you to improve your ability to apply Scrum.” –From the Foreword by Ken Schwaber, co-author of Scrum Mastering

Professional Scrum is for anyone who wants to deliver increased value by using Scrum more effectively. Leading Scrum practitioners Stephanie Ockerman and Simon Reindl draw on years of Scrum training and coaching to help you return to first principles and apply Scrum with the professionalism required to achieve its transformative potential. The authors aim to help you focus on proven Scrum approaches for improving

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quality, getting and using fast feedback, and becoming more adaptable, instead of “going through the motions” and settling for only modest improvements. Whether you’re a Scrum Master, Development Team member, or Product Owner, you’ll find practical advice for facing challenges with transparency and courage, overcoming a wide array of common challenges, and continually improving your Scrum practice. Realistically assess your current Scrum practice, and identify areas for improvement Recognize what a great Scrum Team looks like and get there Focus on “Done”—not “sort-of-Done” or “almost-Done” Measure and optimize the value delivered by every Product Increment Improve the way you plan, develop, and grow Clear away wider organizational impediments to agility and professionalism Overcome common misconceptions that stand in the way of progress Register your book for convenient access to downloads, updates, and/or corrections as they become available. See inside book for details.

In order to maximize IT resources and justify IT expenditures, CIO’s and other IT managers must be able to identify meaningful metrics and explain them in a way that management can understand. The Business Value of IT: Managing Risks, Optimizing Performance, and Measuring Results solves this problem by providing practical answers to these questions: What does IT contribute to the business?

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Why should we care about IT governance? How can we best measure IT performance? How do we mitigate the risks associated with change? Leading consultants Michael D. Harris, David E. Herron, and Stasia Iwanicki share their real-world experiences to explain how you can demonstrate IT's value, and potentially find extra value you didn't know your IT organization creates. They also show how to apply risk management to process improvement and avoid unintended consequences of process improvement programs. The text provides the understanding required to discover the processes necessary to: prioritize your organization's IT activities. identify alternative measurement frameworks, and evaluate the best approaches to outsourcing. Many IT organizations have successfully implemented the techniques described in this book to increase their business value. This work identifies the organizational and cultural obstacles you need to remove to get started along the same path. Learn how to: § Select the best ERP software for your organization § Choose the most effective wrap around software to enhance the performance of an existing ERP system § Align software selection with business goals and objectives § Budget for the software and the hidden costs involved in its implementation At times a daring, maddening, and even frightening process, finding and implementing a suitable software package is never an easy task.

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The cost of the software package is often a fraction of the overall expense. Unless carefully selected, a major software package implementation can consume a considerable amount of your organization's time and energy. An ill-informed purchase can cost your organization its customers, dollars, and reputation. Maximizing Business Performance through Software Packages: Best Practices for Justification, Selection, and Implementation explores the business challenges involved in justifying, selecting, and implementing software packages. It contains practical advice and insights on how to select "good fitting" software packages, how to justify them in terms of their ability to enable business process change or improvement, and most importantly, how to implement them successfully. Selecting and implementing enterprise architecture technology software solutions involves a large expenditure across all the resources of an organization. The process has become increasingly complex as business functions have become increasingly integrated. Maximizing Business Performance through Software Packages: Best Practices for Justification, Selection, and Implementation provides a definitive source that will help you select the solutions that best fit your business needs.

Maximizing ROI on Software Development explains how to execute best quality software development

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and testing while maximizing business value. It discusses Applied ROI in the context of methodologies such as Agile and Extreme Programming, and traditional methodologies including Six Sigma, the Capability Maturity Model® (CMM®), Total Cost of Ownership (TCO), and Product Line Models (PLM). The text discusses what is important in global terms and details how best to choose teams and partners, including outsourcers, and how to employ the latest tools and technologies. It provides models, metrics, and detailed case studies to improve current and future development projects, whether in house or outsourced, near shore or off-shore. The book offers perspectives on how quality improvement through software quality assurance (SQA) testing, planning, and execution is a powerful and effective route toward maximizing return on investment. Divided into seven chapters, this friendly and informative guide can be read quickly, then used as a reliable reference by team leaders and members. It begins by reviewing software development, tools, and methodologies, followed by an examination of how development, maintenance, and integration have become more complex and will continue to do so. The book discusses best practices for managing this complexity and explores the business case for maximizing ROI. The text then provides a comprehensive analysis of ROI from several

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perspectives, covering nomenclature, project success and failure, mathematics, processes, work products, and techniques. It details how to make global teams successful and how to evaluate Applied ROI implementation, and it includes case studies for wireless, enterprise, and CRM systems.

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