Quality Software Management
Vol. 2: First-Order Measurement
by Gerald M. Weinberg

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Use Observation Techniques and Subtle Measurements to Improve Project Management

To consistently produce high-quality software in today’s competitive marketplace, managers must have reliable information, obtained through careful observation and measurement. First-Order Measurement is a comprehensive guide to the basic measurement activities every organization must perform to manage the software development process. Many management failures are caused by poor observation. First-Order Measurement tells how to observe properly with the aid of a four-step model to break the complex observation process into a series of smaller, simpler, steps. The book also defines the different levels of measurement, and describes the minimum set of activities in order to start a measurement program.

Numerous examples and diagrams illustrate the author’s points, and exercises challenge readers to test their understanding of the concepts. Topics include: the direct observation of quality • visualization of product and process • comparison of cost and value • measurement of failures before they happen • and requirements as the basis of measurement.

This stand-alone text is the second in a series of four volumes in which acclaimed author Gerald Weinberg explores the most difficult aspects of building high-quality software.

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