Everything old is new again and again

What we could have learned from a book on COBOL from 1976, but didn't



Chad Nelson

@bibliotechy



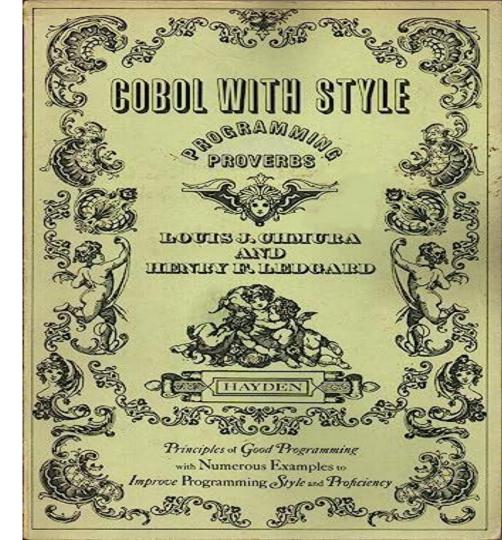
California Digital Library

Publishing, Archives, and Digitization



COBOL with Style

Principles of Good Programming with Numerous Examples to Improve Programming Style and Proficiency



Louis J. Chmura Henry F. Ledgard



Why?



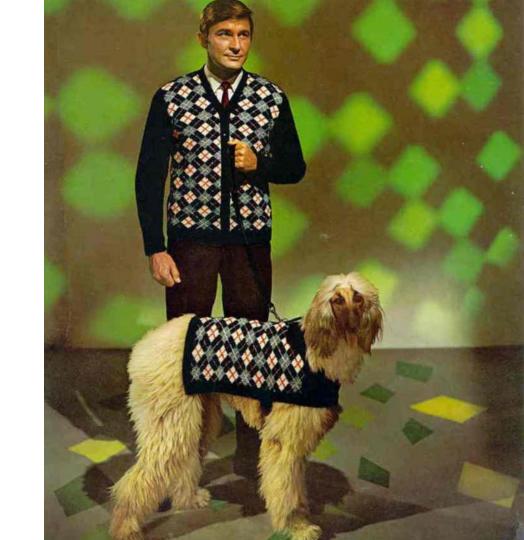
Still Feels Modern

Technological Context

Genealogy of Software Ideas



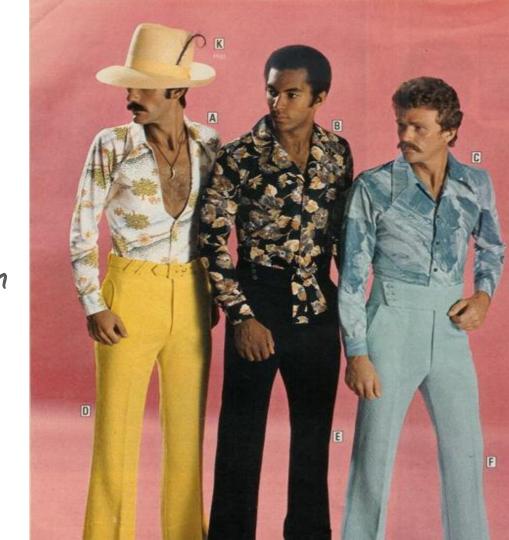
The Proverbs



Don't Panic

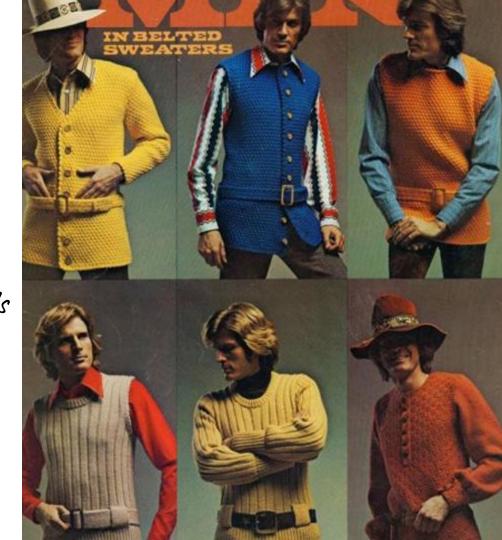
Start the Documentation Early

Think First, Code Later



Proceed Top Down

Design in Levels
Initial Language Independence
Postponement of Details to Lower Levels
Formalization of Each Level
Verification of Each Level
Successive Refinements

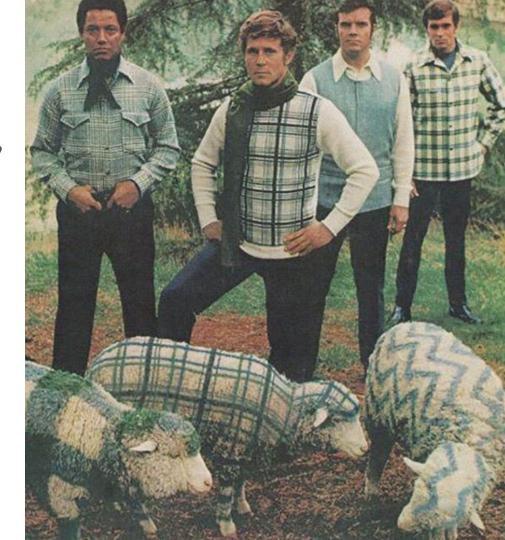


Beware other approaches

Bottom up

Inside Out

Linear



Code in Modular Units

Plan for Change

Prepare to Prove the Pudding



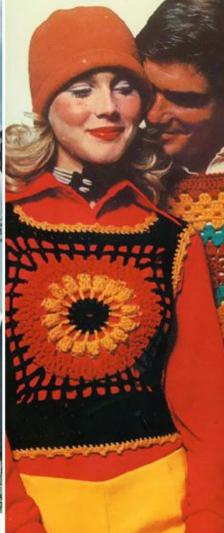
Prettyprint

Comment Effectively

Use Mnemonic Words

Don't Leave the Reader in the Dust





Have Someone Else Read the Work

Read the Manual Again

Don't Be Afraid to Start Over



Still Feels Modern



Technological Context



Genealogy of Software Ideas



