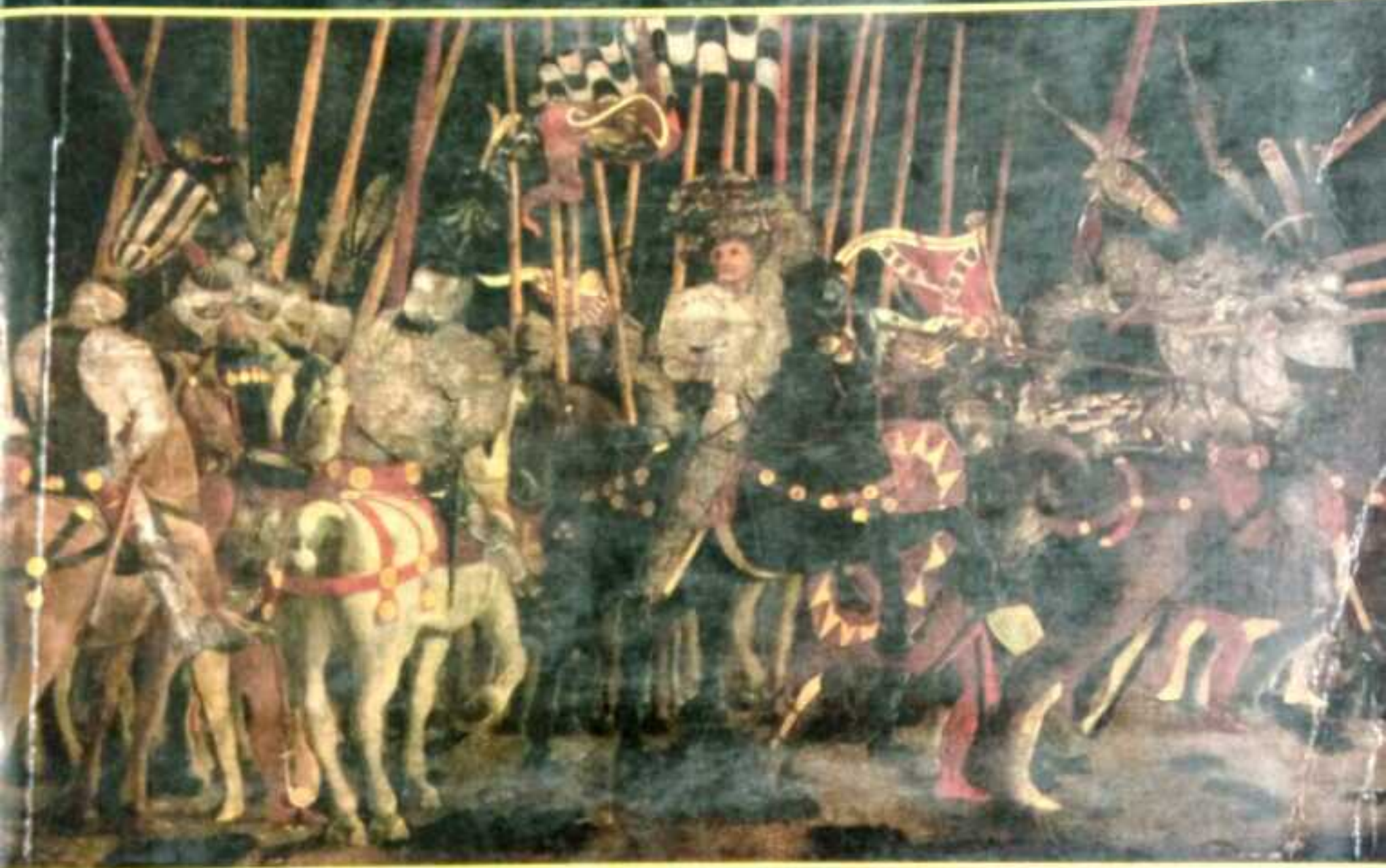


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FUNDAMENTALS OF Software Engineering

SECOND EDITION



Carlo Ghezzi • Mehdi Jazayeri • Dino Mandrioli



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Fundamentals of Software Engineering

Second Edition

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Preface to the Second Edition

The first edition of this book was published in 1991. Since then, there has been a lot of progress in computing technology and also in software engineering. Certainly the proliferation of the Internet has had a profound influence on education, research, development, business, and commerce. We decided to produce this second edition in order to bring the book up to date with respect to the advances in software engineering in the last 10 years.

We were pleased to find that the basic premise of the book—the durability and importance of principles—has been borne out by the passage of time: Even though the technology has improved, principles of software engineering have remained the same. We have therefore been able to update every chapter without changing the original structure of the book. The following is still the structure:

Introduction: Chapters 1–3;

The product: Chapters 4–6;

Process and management: Chapters 7–8;

Tools and environments: Chapter 9.

The product-related chapters follow the sequence consisting of design (4), specification (5), and verification (6). This is different from the approach taken by other books, which cover specification before design. The reason for our choice follows from the principles-based approach of the book. All of these activities—design, specification, and verification—are basic activities that must be learned and applied throughout the software life cycle. For example, design is something we do not only with software architecture, but also with software specifications. The modular design approach helps us structure software and also the specification documents. Other books present specification first and then design, allegedly because—according to the traditional software processes—first we specify a software and then we design it. By contrast, we believe that learning about the design activity and approaches first, creates the needed motivation for the study of specification and provides the skills and techniques for structuring those specifications.

While all areas of software engineering have evolved since the first edition of the book was written, the area of tools and environments has changed substantially. Chapter 9, therefore, is revised considerably. Our approach in this chapter also is to present primarily principles rather than specific tools. We have seen over the years that tools change as technology evolves, and the choice of what particular tools to study depends on the student's environment and focus. We therefore cover a framework for studying and evaluating software tools without a detailed look at any particular tools.

Besides many minor improvements and changes, we have made the following major additions: