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An evolutionary structural model for software maintenance

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Abstract

The traditional approach to business information system development, in which development and maintenance are regarded as separate and distinct phases, has placed overemphasis on a pragmatic but artificial distinction between these phases. This article is concerned with an approach to software development in which delivered systems are regarded as evolutionary products and, as such, have a seamless split between initial development and subsequent refinement. To achieve this requires a clearer separation between the business policies, functional requirements, and object models that are conventionally embedded into software, often in a way that makes their identification difficult. Thus maintenance, and hence evolution, are also difficult.



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