

Process Modeling Series

BIBLIOGRAPHY

*"The man who does not read good books
has no advantage over the man who can't read them."
- Mark Twain*

This bibliography is provided as a reference for any outside materials that were used in the development of the Tryon and Associates Process Modeling seminars. This is a partial bibliography in that we provide only the authors name, title of the work and the original date of publication. A short description of the significance of the materials is included with most of the titles. Many of the books listed are also available on cassette tape. Where that specific medium is recommended, it will be indicated with a "CASS" notice. You will also find a private rating system indicating our opinion of the title. "AAA" indicates a must-read and a book that we feel belongs in every professional's library. "AA" tells you this is an important work that should be in a corporate library for frequent reference. "A" identifies a title that should be browsed as soon as possible and read when there is time. We do not list titles below an "A" but will be happy to provide bibliographical information on any other material referenced in our seminars. You may find some of these books in your local bookstore but most of them are easier to find on the Internet. You may want to find a good source for out of print books for some of these titles.

Chuck Tryon

Adams, Richard. **WATERSHIP DOWN**, 1972. (AA – Okay, let’s start this list with something FUN. I once described this book as “everything you didn’t want to know about rabbits.” That isn’t all that far from the truth. This is a funny and highly entertaining book. But what in the world does it have to do with Process Modeling? In this book, Adams describes a concept called “hrrair” or the threshold of the mental ability to recognize distinctive units. We borrow this notion to discuss human mental complexity limits in complex process models. Or you can just read this because it is a good adventure. It is still actively sold in book stores and yes, there is a movie.)

Alexander, Christopher. **NOTES ON THE SYNTHESIS OF FORM**, 1964. (AA - Here is another classic that transcends specific discipline boundaries. In this material, Alexander explains the engineering concept of “form ever follows function.” That notion has had a profound impact on architectural designs, ergonomics AND systems engineering.)

Apple Computer. **HUMAN INTERFACE GUIDELINES: The Apple Desktop Interface**, 1988. (AA – While the debate may rage over who invented “windows,” Apple defined the standard that for how the human-computer interface should work.)

Borenstein, Nathaniel. **PROGRAMMING AS IF PEOPLE MATTERED: Friendly Programs, Software Engineering, and Other Noble Delusions**, 1991. (A – I believe the subtitle of this book speaks for itself.)

Brooks, Frederick P. ***THE MYTHICAL MAN-MONTH***, 1979. (AA - Brooks was my introduction to a new view of projects and Project Management. Many of Brooks' observations conflicted with traditional knowledge, such as "Adding manpower to a late software project makes it later." A 25th anniversary version of this book was issued by Addison Wesley in 1995.)

Bruce, Thomas A. ***DESIGNING QUALITY DATABASES WITH IDEF1X INFORMATION MODELS***, 1992. (AA - There aren't that many books out there about Data Modeling and even fewer *good* books on the topic. Thomas does a good job describing the basic concepts of the method and provides examples using the IDEF1X notation. IDEF1X is just one of many notations for defining data structures and meanings. Don't avoid this book because you've never heard of the notation or your organization is using something different. The concepts in this book may be applied using any notation.)

Carnegie Mellon University / Software Engineering Institute. ***THE CAPABILITY MATURITY MODEL: Guidelines for Improving the Software Process***, 1995. (AA - This is work sponsored by the Department of Defense to make requirement management and project management more repeatable on software projects. A great reference for any software development organization. There are a lot of consulting organizations (does the color blue bring anyone to your mind) making big bucks simply reiterating this material. The SEI has volumes of research data that you may order. It's far cheaper than consulting rates! There is also a website with loads of material at www.sei.cmu.edu.)

Crosby, Philip B. ***QUALITY IS FREE***, 1979. (A - This material was listed by USA Today as the "most quoted, least read book ever written." **GUILTY AS CHARGED!** Crosby is best known for his definition of "quality." He argues that quality does not cost more, hence the title. In fact, the lack of quality adds cost due to waste and rework.)

DeMarco, Tom. ***STRUCTURED ANALYSIS AND SYSTEM SPECIFICATION***, 1978. (AAA – This is one of the finest technical method books ever written. It provides information about this non-trivial discipline in an enjoyable and meaningful way. I cut my professional teeth on this book, and had it (and the author) not been so delightful, would have likely walked away. Despite the relatively old publishing date, this book remains the most authoritative work available on Structured Analysis ... if you can find it. This book is the primary textual reference for our ***STRUCTURED SYSTEMS ANALYSIS: Part One – Fundamental Modeling Tools and Techniques.***)

DeMarco, Tom and Timothy Lister. ***PEOPLEWARE: Productive Projects and Teams 2nd Edition***, 1999. (AAA - This is my all-time favorite (management) book. I have marked it up more than any other book in my library. A great book to use in a "weekly reader" program with your peers.)

Edwards, Betty. ***DRAWING ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE BRAIN***, 1979. (A – This popular business book was originally written for art students who were lacking inspiration and creative juices. Edwards helps explain the distinctive capabilities of the left and right sides of the human brain. Very interesting stuff.)

Freedman, Daniel P. and Gerald M. Weinberg. ***WALKTHROUGHS, INSPECTIONS, AND TECHNICAL REVIEWS: Evaluating Programs, Projects, and Products***, 1990. (A - This is for all you Weinberg fans out there. When you have finished Ed Yourdon's "Structured Walkthroughs" book, graduate on to this one. Not nearly as much fun, but very useful. Read it carefully, though. There are several points by the authors that I believe are TOO cute and way off base. However, I doubt that they care much about my opinion.)

Hammer, Michael and James Champy. ***REENGINEERING THE CORPORATION***, 1993. (AA - The 2nd ranked best selling business book ever ... and worth every penny. A great Information Age contrast to Adam Smith's "The Wealth of Nations" classic.) CASS.

Hammer, Michael and Steven A. Stanton. ***THE REENGINEERING REVOLUTION***, 1995. (AA - Hammer uses this material to address the misunderstanding many people took away from his earlier book and also address many of the shortcomings he has observed in reengineering projects. Much of what he discusses has to do with defining roles and responsibilities with heavy emphasis on a high-level reengineering leader. Those familiar with my views on the Project Owner will find many similarities. Hammer also describes reengineering in terms that are quite similar to event analysis.) CASS.

Jacobson, Ivar. ***OBJECT-ORIENTED SOFTWARE ENGINEERING: A Use-Case Driven Approach***, 1990. (A - Jacobson was the first author to integrate the concepts of event modeling to the object discussion. He references McMenamin and Palmer's work to define a "use-case." A use-case is basically a physical event that helps tie together the processing (methods) and data of an object. Since the writing of this book, Jacobson has been instrumental in the development of the Universal Modeling Language (UML) for object applications.)

LaRoux, Paul. ***SELLING TO A GROUP***, 1984. (A - Best book I've ever seen on presentation techniques.)

Loomis, Mary. ***THE DATABASE BOOK***, 1987. (A - Another quality book dealing with Data Modeling.)

Mager, Robert E. ***PREPARING INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES, 2nd Edition***, 1984. (A - If you have ever been asked to write new training material, this is a good book to read. Beware, follow the author's instructions or suffer the consequences.)

Martin, James. ***CYBERCORP: The New Business Revolution***, 1996. (A - James Martin seems to crank out a new book at a rate equal to the birth rate in a third world nation. And many of his books simply regurgitate something he has stated in a previous volume. At times, however, this reiteration is of value. This is such a book. Martin isn't presenting anything new here but he is providing a fresh view of Event Modeling that was first introduced in McMenamin and Palmers ***ESSENTIAL SYSTEMS ANALYSIS***. While the text is would rank high on Tom DeMarco's SOSI (Same Old Stuff Index), it does provide a fresh and interesting view on this very valuable technique.)

Martin, James. ***INFORMATION ENGINEERING, BOOK 1: Introduction; BOOK 2: Planning and Analysis; BOOK 3: Design and Construction***, 1990. (A - In this trilogy, Martin describes his master vision for how a organization can create a traceable view of strategic reasons for a business through analysis and design into the actual software. This vision was the basis for Texas Instruments' Information Engineering Facility software product.)

Mayhew, Deborah J. ***PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES IN SOFTWARE USER INTERFACE DESIGN***, 1992. (A – A very readable book that explores the many faces of measurable software usability.)

McMenamin, Stephen M. and John F. Palmer. ***ESSENTIAL SYSTEMS ANALYSIS***, 1984. (AAA – This is one of the best books ever written that deals with Structured Analysis and the creation of “essential” requirements. I participated in the identification and definition of many of the concepts documented in this book. I have used this material as my primary recommendations to anyone who attends our ***STRUCTURED SYSTEMS ANALYSIS: Part Two – Modeling Essential Processes*** seminar. The biggest problem with this book today is finding it. Good hunting.)

Miller, George. ***“The Magical Number Seven, Plus or Minus Two: Some limits on our capacity for processing information. Psychology Review, March 1956.*** (A – This article is interesting to Structured Analysis historians as Miller introduced the topic of limits on our ability to store information in our brains during the communication process. This gives us some guidelines on how complex to make a Data Flow Diagram. It also explains many other things such as why phone numbers were limited to seven digits.)

Mitchell, Richard. ***LESS THAN WORDS CAN SAY***, 1979. (AA – The more we understand the process of analysis, the more we can see the hand of our grammar teachers in what we do. Things like “imperative statements,” knowing the difference between verbs and nouns and avoiding writing styles that cause confusion all help us create more understandable models. Mitchell, known as the “Underground Grammarian,” wrote this humorous book to identify the basic elements of communication. It will make you a better writer ... and you'll enjoy the ride.)

Robertson, James and Suzanne. ***COMPLETE SYSTEMS ANALYSIS***, 1998. (AA - This is probably the best available book on Structured Systems Analysis. The “Robs” have collected much of what is good from Tom DeMarco, Steve McMenamin and John Palmer. While much of their material is similar to those books, those books are out of print. James and Suzanne have attempted to identify various routes through their book and your analysis project. They help illustrate their points with a build-in case study.)

Weinberg, Gerald M. and Donald C. Gause. ***EXPLORING REQUIREMENTS: Quality Before Design***, 1989. (AA – This is a very useful book for if you are looking for ideas and approaches to gathering business requirements during the analysis process.)

Wiley, Bill. ***ESSENTIAL SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: A Practical Guide to Event-Driven Methods***, 2000. (AA – This is a very promising new book about the use of event models to front-end Object-Oriented methods. Wiley has borrowed heavily from McMenamin and

Palmer's book. He has a few misunderstandings of what those authors were saying but over-all, it is very good. The primary failure of this book is that Wiley talks about "business events" but is actually describing "physical events." It is very good reading for the OO crowd who believes everything starts with a use case.)

Yourdon, Edward. *MODERN STRUCTURED ANALYSIS*, 1989. (A – Ed Yourdon had done many things for the "structured" community. He was attempting to clarify some analysis issues with this book, and actually made things worse. This book does have value in that provides documentation on some very obscure methods. That is why it is in my library.)

Yourdon, Edward. *STRUCTURED WALKTHROUGHS*, 1985. (AA - The funniest business book I've ever read. You want to know how to hold peer reviews and have people enjoy the process? This is the book.)