This book takes an alternative approach to project management and the development of complex systems. Technology, methods and tools are still important, but human-centric aspects like common understanding, coordination, visualization, and reduction of complexity, needs to be brought to the forefront. The core of the alternative approach is the system anatomy, a means that was conceived in the early 1990s at Ericsson, a world-leading supplier of telecommunication solutions. The anatomy has ever since been extensively used at Ericsson for managing extremely complex system development tasks.

The anatomy is a simple but powerful image showing the dependencies between capabilities in the system; from the most basic ones to “money-making”; thus representing a novel way of describing and discussing what a system is.

The book is a collection of chapters from authors that in one way or another have been working with the anatomy concept. The intended audience is both practitioners facing complex development tasks, and researchers who are interested in exploring new perspectives and theoretical frameworks for managing complexity in areas such as information system development, organizational sciences, project management and more.

ISBN 9789144070742
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