Abstract: 50 Years of Technical Debt with Rising Interest Rates

At Raytheon, we build large and small systems mainly for the Department of Defense and other Government organizations. These systems are built over years and are often evolved and maintained for 30 or 40 years. Like with all software systems, these systems build technical debt over the course of their lifetime. Both intentional and inadvertent technical debt has accumulated in many of these systems, most of which is not documented in defect reports.

What happens when the decision to take on technical debt isn't recorded, or the technical debt is inherited? In this keynote, I will talk about the dimensions of technical debt in our organization, and challenges Raytheon has around detecting and measuring the technical debt.