Unit 1. Introduction to SW Engineering

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Software Engineering

- Meaning of Software and Engineering
 - Software
 - Source codes, Object codes, Development documents, User manuals, etc.
 - Engineering
 - Application of a systematic approach, based on science and mathematics, toward the production of a structure, machine, product, process or system.
- By Its Goals
 - producing a High "Quality" software system
 - in a "Cost-effective" manner

The Only Course with 'Engineering' within C.S.

Software Crisis

- 40-Year-Old Software Productivity Problem
 - Software has failed to keep up with hardware evolution.
 - No significant advances for the last few decades
 - Difficulty of writing correct, understandable, and verifiable software
- Software Crisis manifested in Several Ways
 - Projects running over-budget and over-time
 - Software with Inefficiency
 - Software with Low Quality
 - Usability, Performance, Maintainability, etc.
 - Software not Meeting requirements
 - Unmanageable Projects



Causes to Software Crisis

- Increased Software "Complexity"
 - User Demands on Richer Functionality of Software
 - Heterogeneous Hardware Environment
 - Distributed Computing
 - Web-based and Mobile Applications
 - Software embedded in Hardware Systems
 - Context-aware Computing
- Increased Software "Cost"
 - Development Cost
 - Ownership Cost
 - Operation Cost + Maintenance Cost

Software Complexity

- Building Large-scaled Software
 - is not a simple scaled-up problem.
- Analogy
 - Foot bridge over stream vs. Road bridge over river



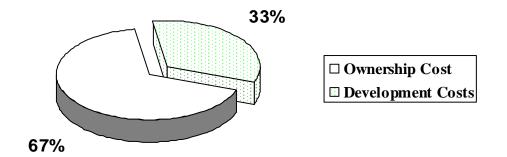
Nature of the Problem

Complexity of the Software



Software Cost (1)

- Development Cost vs. Ownership Cost
 - Software ownership is generally twice as expensive as development.
 - Primarily, the cost of maintenance

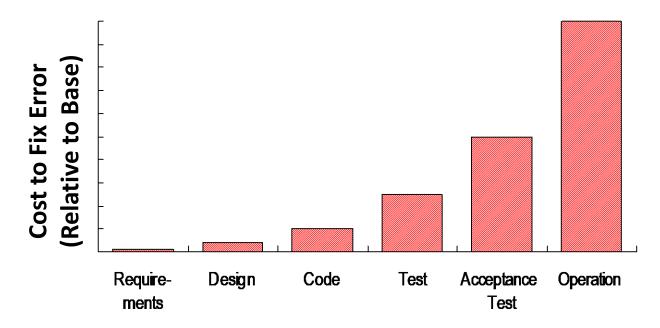


- Message
 - Software product is not the final goal.
 - Maintenance becomes a significant issue.

Software Cost (2)

Costs to Fix Errors

The sooner an error is discovered, the better.

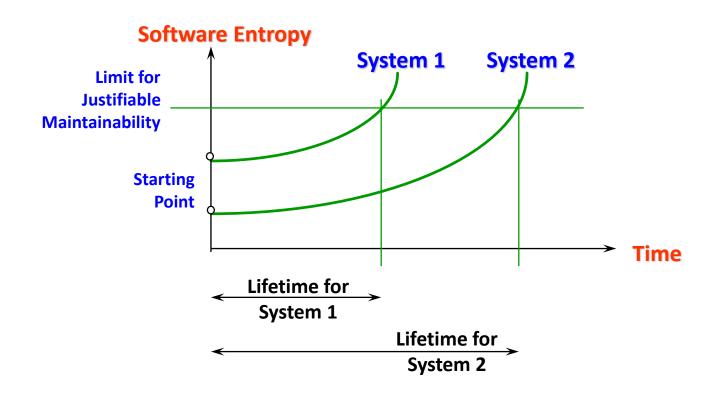


- More errors are found by outside testers and users than by developers.
- More errors are found in the two latest stages.

Software Quality & Lifetime

Software Entropy

- A program that is used will be modified.
- Increased failure rate and complexity due to side effects of maintenance.



Overcoming Software Crisis

- "Engineering" Approach to Software Development
 - Avoid Ad-hoc approach!
 - Utilize Effective Methodology!
- Reusing Software Assets
 - Components, Cloud Services, Design Patterns, Architectural Styles, Frameworks, etc.
- Focus more on Modeling and Design
 - Good design is a prerequisite to good implementation.

