

# MNEMONIC RULES FOR EPONYMOUS LAWS

**WAIT! THERE'S A  
LAW FOR THAT....**

**WE'RE RUNNING LATE SO, WE'RE  
ADDING MORE ENGINEERS TO HIT THE  
DEADLINE**



**Jan Schaumann**

@jschauma



Falsehoods CS Students (Still) Believe Upon Graduating

An incomplete  based on experience and observation:

9:50 PM · Nov 1, 2019 · [TweetDeck](#)



**Jan Schaumann**

@jschauma

95. Brooks's Law does not apply to them.

96. Conway's Law does not apply to them.

97.. Murphy's Law does not apply to them.

9:28 PM · Nov 1, 2019 · [TweetDeck](#)

# BROOKS'S LAW

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- > ADDING PEOPLE TO A LATE SOFTWARE PROJECT MAKES IT LATER.

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- > THE **BROOK** WENT OVER THE WATERFALL



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  - > FRED BROOKS

# CONWAY'S LAW

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  - > MELVIN CONWAY

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- > WHATEVER CAN GO WRONG. WILL
  - > (I HAVE NO MNEMONIC YET)



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  - > EDWARD MURPHY, 1952

# MOORE'S LAW

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- > **COMPUTING POWER DOUBLES EVERY TWO YEARS**

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- > THE METROPOLITAN  $N^2$  NETWORK VALUE GROWS WITH USER NUMBERS
  - > BOB METCALF

MAYBE THE REAL VALUE OF A NETWORK  
IS THAT WE MET A CALF ALONG THE WAY

# HANLON'S RAZOR

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- > APOCRYPHAL LAW, BUT SIMILAR TO NOTIONS FROM
- > ROBERT HEINLEIN, AUTHOR OF THE PUPPET MASTERS

# Galaxy

SCIENCE FICTION

SEPTEMBER 1951  
35¢  
ANC





# HOFSTADTER'S LAW

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  - > DOUGLAS HOFSTATDER

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  - > MIKE GODWIN, 1980





**Mike Godwin** ✓

@sfmnemonic

Replying to [@DownTwist](#) [@Jamie\\_Foxworthy](#) and 5 others

If you think comparing me to Hitler works, you must be new to the internet.

9:31 AM · Aug 12, 2019 · [TweetDeck](#)

# QUIZ

Q:

Q:

> WE'VE ADDED A DEVOPS TEAM AND NOW WE'RE FURTHER  
BEHIND SCHEDULE

A:

A:

> **BROOKS'S LAW**

A:

> BROOKS'S LAW


> ￣\\_ (ツ) \\_ / ￣

A:

- > BROOKS'S LAW
- > ￣\\_ (ツ) \\_ / ￣
- > CONWAY'S LAW





**Heather Battaglia (18F) (DEN)**  Nov

27th at 6:26 PM

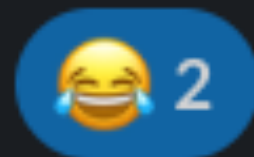
why is it that no matter how realistic I  
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everything is always at least double  
the time I think it is

3 replies




**James Tranovich (18F - SF - he/him)**

13 days ago





**Heather Battaglia (18F) (DEN)**  Nov

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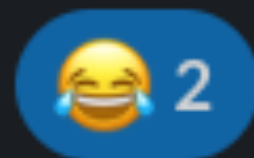
3 replies



**James Tranovich (18F - SF - he/him)**

13 days ago

Hofstadter's law!



# FINI?

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- GOODHART'S LAW: WHEN A MEASURE BECOMES A TARGET, IT CEASES TO BE A GOOD MEASURE.

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- GOODHART'S LAW: WHEN A MEASURE BECOMES A TARGET, IT CEASES TO BE A GOOD MEASURE.
- GALL'S LAW: EVERY WORKING COMPLEX SYSTEM WAS FIRST A WORKING SIMPLE SYSTEM