

Real Software Engineering

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Forty-Four Years of
Software Engineering

Software Engineering Doesn't Work!

How We Got Here

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Report on a conference sponsored by the
NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE
Darmstadt, Germany, 27th to 31st October 1968

Chairman: Professor Dr. F. L. Bauer
Co-Chairman: Professor L. Berni, Dr. H. J. Heller

Editors: Jock Macdonald and Brian Randell

January 1969

REPORT ON A CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY THE
NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE
ROME, ITALY, 27th to 31st OCTOBER 1969

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING TECHNIQUES

CHAIRMAN : PROFESSOR P. ESCOLI
CO-CHAIRMAN : PROFESSOR DR. F.L. BAUER

EDITORS : J.M. BUXTON and B. RANDALL

APRIL 1970

Unlike the first conference, at which it was fully accepted that the term software engineering expressed a need rather than a reality, in Rome there was already a slight tendency to talk as if the subject already existed.

And it became clear during the conference that the organizers had a hidden agenda, namely that of persuading NATO to fund the setting up of an International Software Engineering Institute.

However things did not go according to their plan. The discussion sessions which were meant to provide evidence of strong and extensive support for this proposal were instead marked by considerable scepticism, and led one of the participants, Tom Simpson of IBM, to write a splendid short satire on “Masterpiece Engineering”.

It was little surprise to any of the participants in the Rome conference that no attempt was made to continue the NATO conference series, but the software engineering bandwagon began to roll as many people started to use the term to describe their work, to my mind often with very little justification.

—*Brian Randell*

“Premature maturity”

**Engineering:
Caricature and Reality**

“Engineering is
straightforward
and predictable”

[Programming] is not some kind of
engineering where all we have to do
is put something in one end and
turn the crank.

—Bruce Eckel

The conversion of an idea to an artifact, which engages both the designer and the maker, is a complex and subtle process that will always be far closer to art than to science.

—*Eugene S. Ferguson,*
Engineering and the Mind's Eye

The *defined process control model* requires that every piece of work be completely understood. A defined process can be started and allowed to run until completion, with the same results every time.

The *empirical process control model* provides and exercises control through frequent inspection and adaptation for processes that are imperfectly defined and generate unpredictable and unrepeatable outputs.

“Engineers produce drawings and documents.”

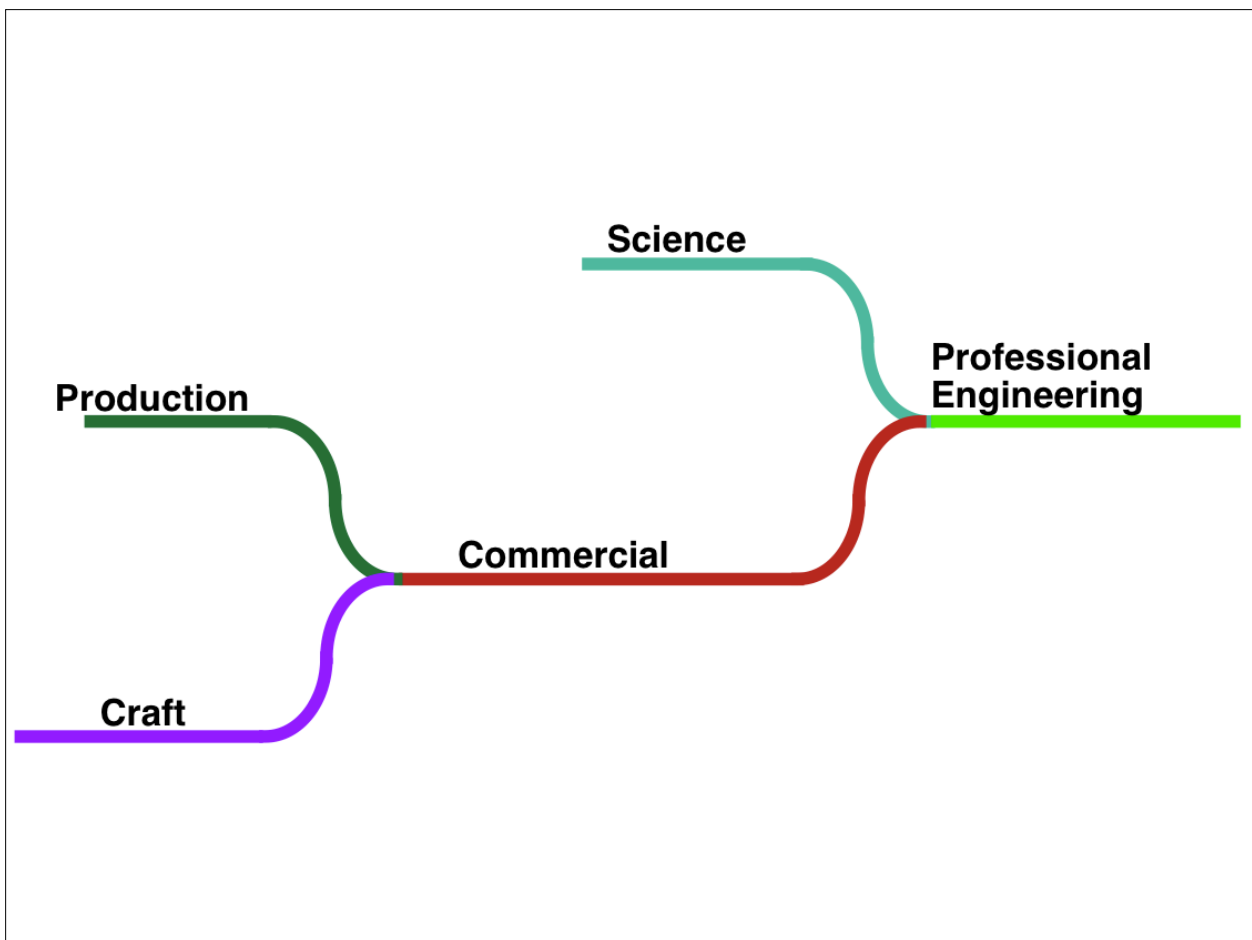
In engineering ... people design
through documentation.

—*David Parnas*

Although the drawings appear to be
exact and unequivocal, their precision
conceals many informal choices,
inarticulate judgments, acts of
intuition, and assumptions about the
way the world works.

—*Eugene S. Ferguson,*
Engineering and the Mind's Eye

“Engineering is
applied science.”





SEMAT Workshop on a General Theory of Software Engineering

October 7, 2012 in [News](#)

SEMAT Workshop on a General Theory of Software Engineering ([GTSE 2012](#)) to be held at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden, November 8-9, 2012.

[← Essence Meeting and Presentation at OMG Jacksonville Meeting September 12, 2012](#)

[New Academic Signatory →](#)

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@skilldrick

Nick Morgan

I've invented a new term "Parasitic Credibility". Where certain fields attempt to link themselves to science in order to sound more real.

Van Vleck was very concerned that the practice of engineering be put on a firmer scientific basis. He led a vigorous shift of American engineering education away from design toward applied science. The pendulum swung too far; reaction set in; and the teaching of design has been contentious ever since.

—*Fred Brooks*,
The Design of Design

Aeroplanes are not designed by science, but by art, in spite of some pretence and humbug to the contrary. [...]

There is a big gap between scientific research and the engineering product which has to be bridged by the art of the engineer.

—*J. D. North*

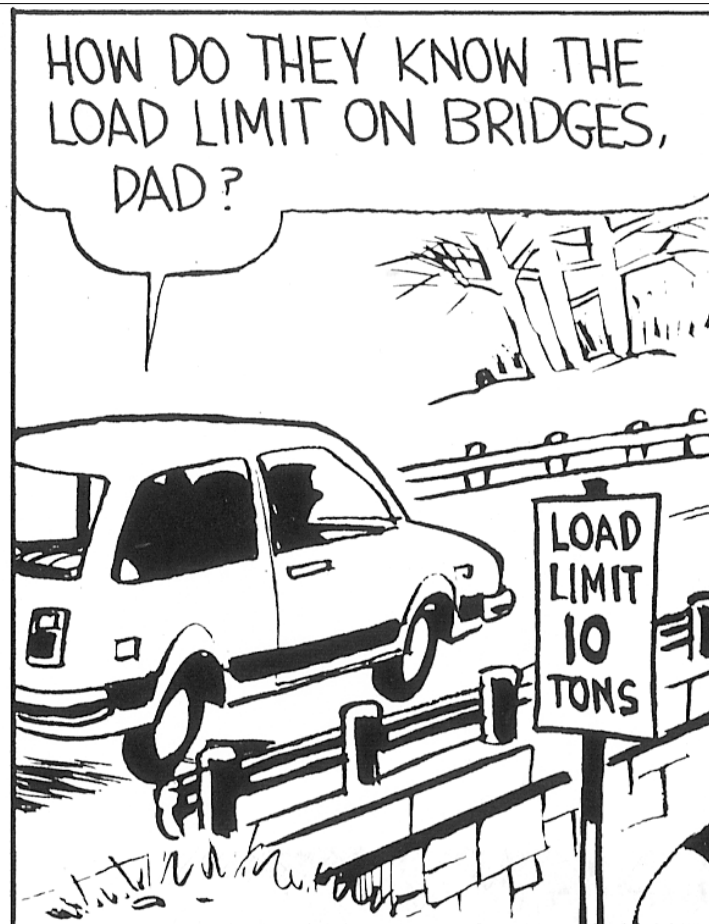
Engineers frequently have to make
decisions of great practical
consequence in the face of
incomplete and uncertain knowledge.

—*Walter Vincenti*,
What Engineers Know
and How They Know It

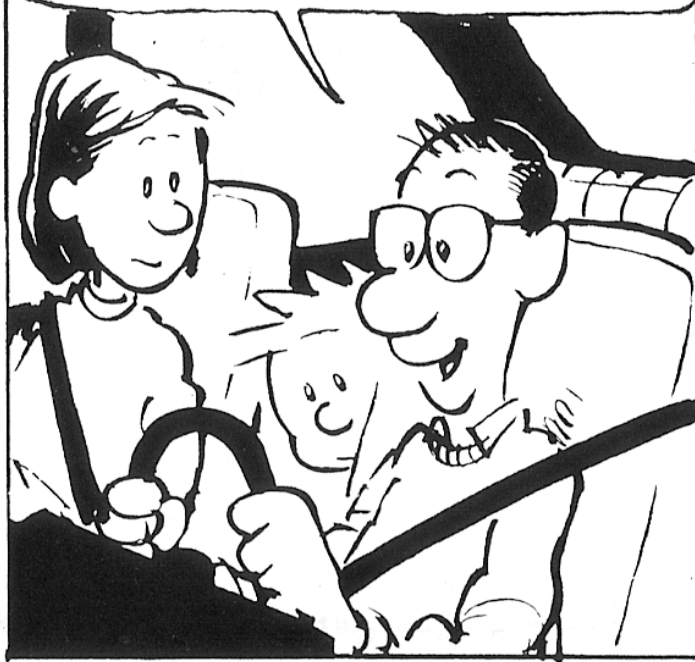
“Engineers **prove** their
designs with mathematics!”

Structural analyses (indeed, any engineering calculations) must be employed with caution and judgment, because mathematical models are always less complex than actual structures, processes, or machines.

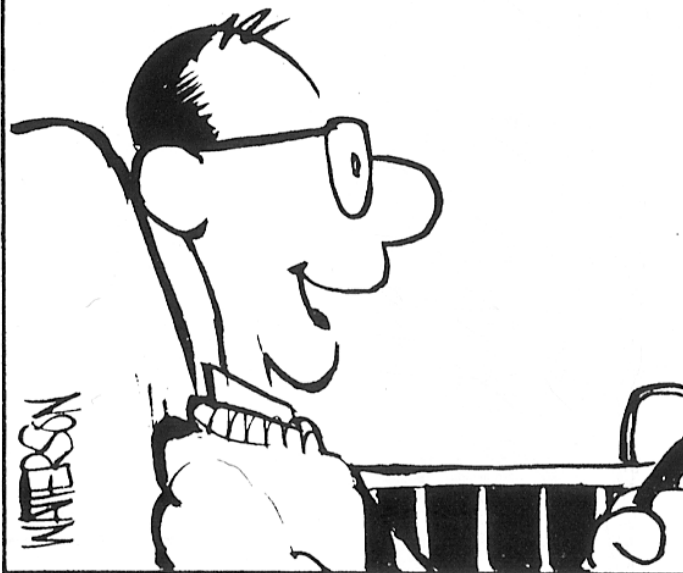
—*Eugene S. Ferguson,*
Engineering and the Mind's Eye



THEY DRIVE BIGGER AND
BIGGER TRUCKS OVER THE
BRIDGE UNTIL IT BREAKS.



THEN THEY WEIGH THE
LAST TRUCK AND
REBUILD THE BRIDGE.







Mathematical modeling
was introduced as a
cost-saving measure.

Engineering is not the art
of constructing. It is rather
the art of not constructing:
or, it is the art of doing well
with one dollar what any
bungler can do with two.

—*Arthur Mellen Wellington*

Different Engineering Disciplines are *Different*

- Different materials, physical effects, forces
- Different degrees of complexity in requirements, designs, processes, and artifacts
- Varied reliance on formal modeling and analysis vs. experimentation, prototyping, and testing
- Varied use of defined and empirical processes

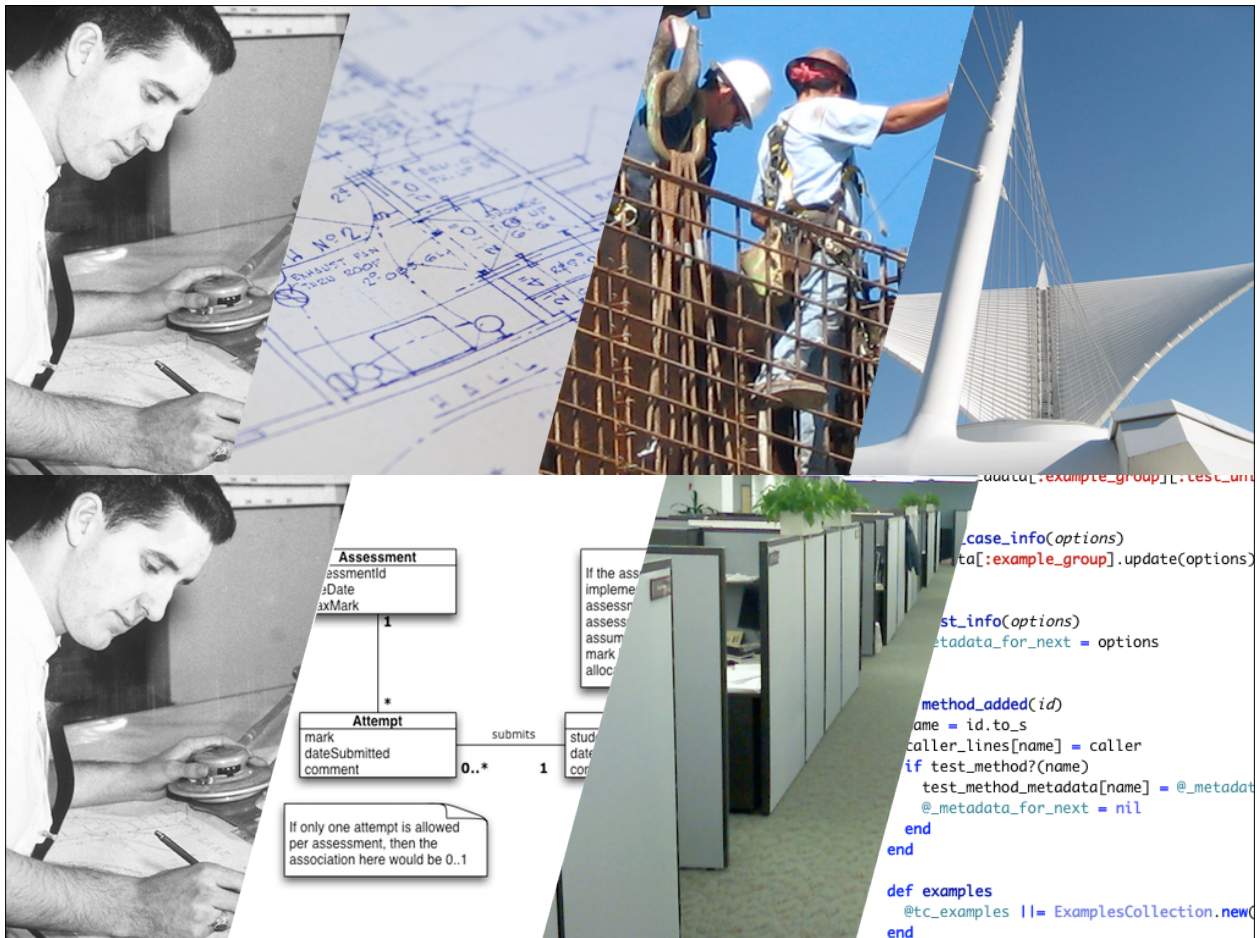
Structural engineering is
the science and art
of designing and making,
with economy and elegance,
[...] structures so that they
can safely resist the forces to
which they may be subjected.

—*Structural Engineer's Association*

Real Software Engineering

Software engineering is
the science and art
of designing and making,
with economy and elegance,
[...] systems so that they can
readily adapt to the situations to
which they may be subjected.

Software engineering will
be *different* from other
kinds of engineering.





Condition							Value N(T))
N(p(T)) = Pass							Pass
N(p(T)) = Fail							Fail
N(p(T))≠ Pass ^ N(p(T))≠ Fail	r(T)= N(p(T))	N(p(T)) = L					Pass
		N(p(T)) ≠ L					N(p(T))+1
	r(T)≠ N(p(T))	r(T)≠ esc	r(p(T))≠ N(p(p(T)))	r(p(T))= esc	p(p(T))= _		N(p(T))
					p(p(T)) ≠ _	r(p(p(T)))= N(p(p(p(T))))	N(p(T))-1
						r(p(p(T))) ≠ N(p(p(p(T))))	N(p(T))
					r(p(T)) ≠ esc		N(p(T))
				r(p(T)) = N(p(p(T)))		N(p(T))-1	
				r(T)= esc	r(p(T))=esc	N(p(p(T))) = esc	
			N(p(p(T))) ≠ esc			Fail	
			r(p(T)) ≠ esc				

divided by	2	3	4	7
9	4.5	3	2.25	1.29
10	5.0	3.33	2.5	1.43
11	5.5	3.66	2.75	1.57
12.6	6.3	4.2	3.15	1.8
22	11.0	7.33	5.5	3.14
100	50.0	33.33	32	14.29

Feature: Addition

In order to avoid silly mistakes
As an error-prone person
I want to divide two numbers

Scenario Outline: Divide two numbers

Given I have entered <input_1>

And I have entered <input_2>

When I press "divide"

Then the result should be <result>

Examples:

input_1	input_2	result
10	2	5.0
12.6	3	4.2
22	7	~3.14
9	3	<5
11	2	4<_<6
100	4	32

```

assert_in_delta 3.14, result, 0.01
assert 5 == result
assert 4.2 == result
assert_equal 32, result
end
end

```

eg.Division

numerator	denominator	quotient?
10	2	5.0
12.6	3	4.2
22	7	~3.14
9	3	<5
11	2	4<_<6
100	4	32 expected 25 actual

ers" do

do

should == 5.0

should == 4.2

should be_close(3.14, 0.01)

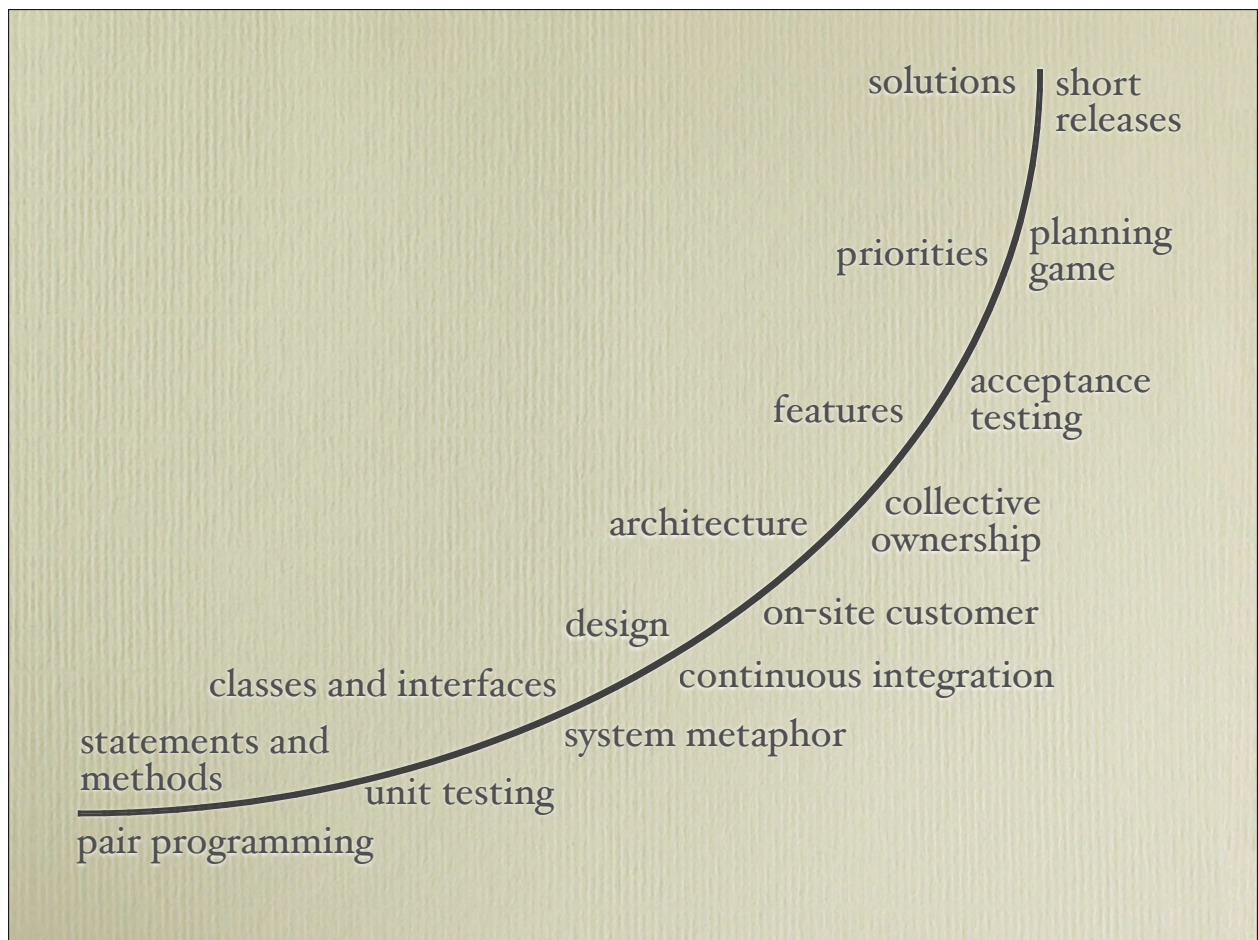
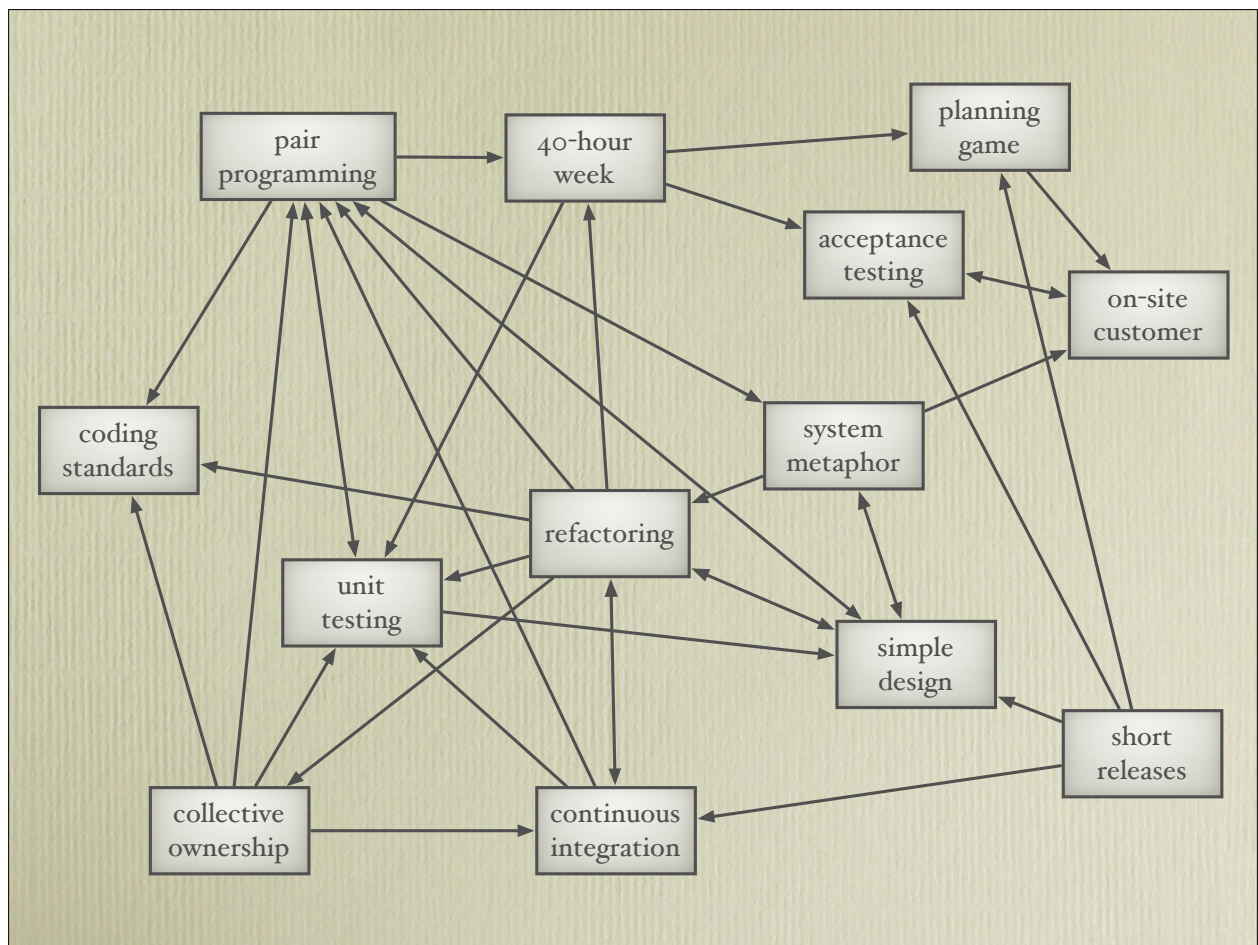
should < 5

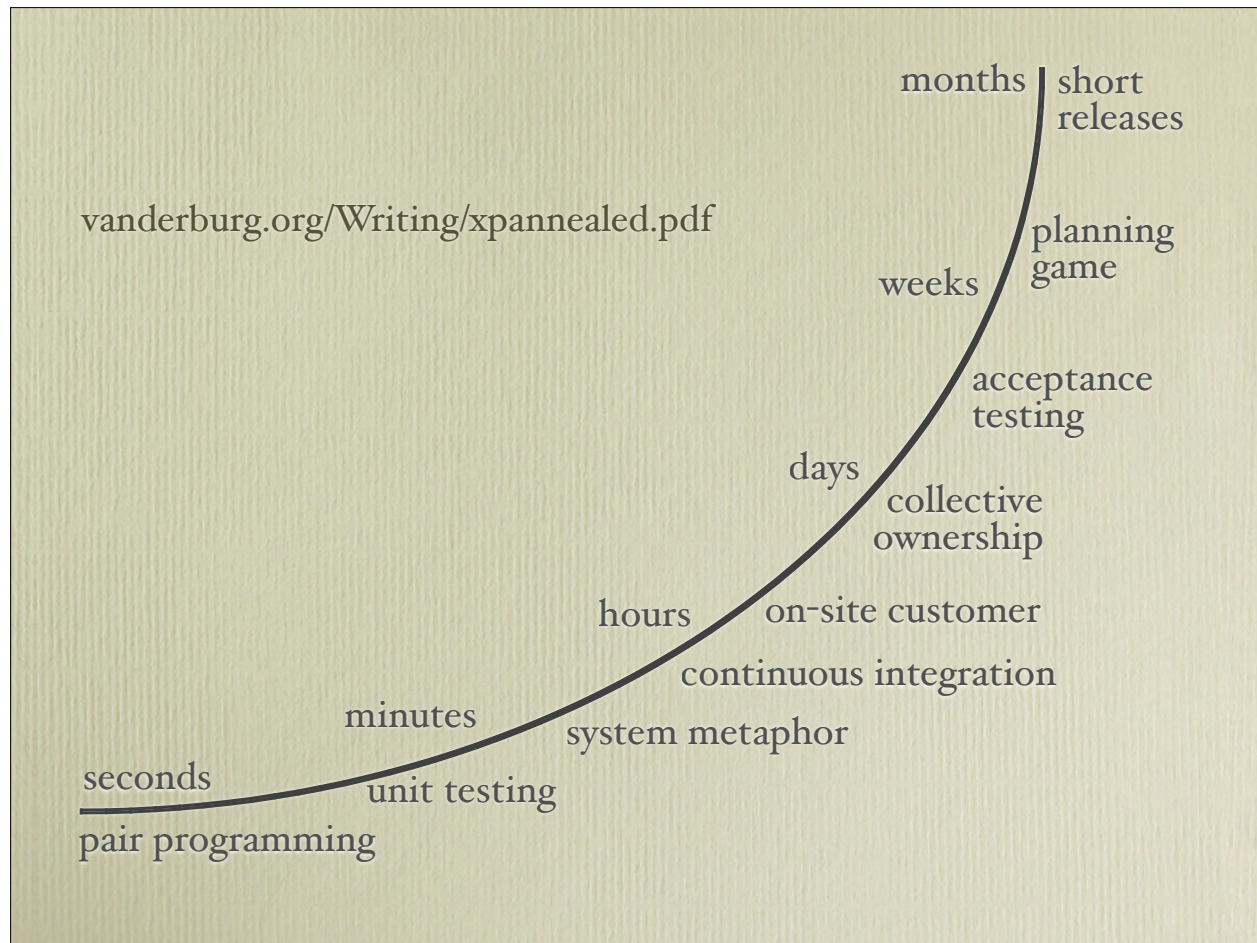
should satisfy{|n| n > 4 && n < 6 }

(100 / 4) .should == 32

end

end





Discarding
Incorrect Assumptions

The Reality of Software Engineering

Growing Up

Real Software Engineering

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