







No Silver Bullet:

Essence and Accidents of Software Engineering

"Of all the monsters that fill the nightmares of our folklore, none terrify more than werewolves, because they transform unexpectedly from the familiar into horrors. For these, one seeks bullets of silver that can magically lay them to rest.

"The familiar software project, at least as seen by the nontechnical manager, has something of this character; it is usually innocent and straightforward, but is capable of becoming a monster of missed schedules, blown budgets, and flawed products. So we hear desperate cries for a silver bullet—something to make software costs drop as rapidly as computer hardware costs do.

"But, as we look to the horizon of a decade hence, we see no silver bullet. There is no single development, in either technology or in management technique, that by itself promises even one order-of-magnitude improvement in productivity, in reliability, in simplicity. In this article, I shall try to show why, by examining both the nature of the software problem and the properties of the bullets proposed."

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sprenkle - CSCI209 by Frederick P. Brooks, Jr., 1986

















Prototypes, In Brie	f	
• Sample of applicati	on	
Often: Demonstrate one part/purpose		
 Focus on one thing, not the whole thing 		
 Purpose/Dimensions 		
Functionality		
Interaction		
Implementation		
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Really Zoomed In: Design **Iterative Development Steps** 1. Design a {method, class, package} 2. Implement the {method, class, package} **3.** *Test* the {method, class, package} Evaluate Implement 4. Fix the {method, class, package} 5. Deploy the {method, class, package} 6. Get feedback Probably will require modifications to design May even need to rollback a previous version 7. Repeat, building up Oct 28, 2022 Sprenkle - CSCI209 23







Type 2 Bugs: Run-Time

- Usually logic errors
- Expensive to locate, fix



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