

# Software Engineering

Winter 2013/14

Everything on these slides can also be found on the Web site:

<http://www.st.cs.uni-saarland.de/edu/se/2013/>

## A Software Crisis



## Denver International Airport (DIA)

Construction started in 1989 • 53 sq miles  
• Planned: 1.7 bio USD costs, opening 1993

## Denver International Airport

- Approved for construction in 1989
- First major airport to be built in the United States in over 20 years.
- Three terminals + several runways
- Built on 53 square miles of land (Twice the size of Manhattan Island!)







What camera crews depicted was truly a disaster; carts jammed together, damaged luggage everywhere, some bags literally split in half, and the tattered remains of clothing strewn

## A Disaster

- Carts jammed together
- Damaged luggage everywhere, some bags literally split in half
- Tattered remains of clothing strewn about caused subsequent carts to derail
- Half the luggage that survived the ordeal ended up at the wrong terminal

## More Issues

- Carts got stuck in narrow corridors
- Wind blew light baggage from carts
- 5% of the labels were read correctly
- Normal network load was 95%

# Complexity: Empty Carts

- Empty carts need to go where they are needed
- Cart has to be at its “cannon” at the right moment
- Lanes have limited length → traffic jam
- All controlled by single central system

## Consequences

- Airport opening delayed four times – overall, sixteen months late
- New engineering firm
  - split system in three (one per terminal)
  - implemented manual backup system
- BAE got bankrupt
- Overall damage: 1.3 bln USD

## Glass’ Law

*Requirement deficiencies are the prime source of project failures.*

This and other laws are found in Endres/Rombach: Handbook of Software and Systems Engineering. Evidence: Denver airport case study and two more

# Chaos Report

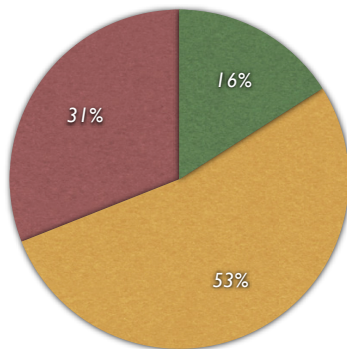
<http://www.standishgroup.com>

- 31% of projects were *aborted* prior to completion
- in small (large) development companies, *only 16% (9%) of all projects were completed within projected budget and time limits*

Survey by the Standish Group, 1994 – 350 companies with >8000 software projects

## Project Success

● successful ● operational ● cancelled



Survey by PC week, 1995: 365 information systems professionals on success of software development projects

16% of all projects successful  
53% operational, but less than successful  
31% cancelled

## More Examples

- **Mariner 1 (1962)**  
Rocket crash due to missing dash
- **Eole 1 (1971)**  
72 weather balloons get wrong cmd
- **Nimbus 7 (1978)**  
Satellite misses ozone hole for 6 yrs
- **HMS Sheffield (1982)**  
Exocet rocket id'ed as "friend"
- **Stanislaw Petrow (1983)**  
Russia detects global nuclear attack
- **Therac 25 (1985)**  
Radiation overdose kills six
- **Stock crash (1987)**  
Dow Jones loses 22% in one day
- **Vincennes (1988)**  
Passenger jet mistaken to be F-14
- **Patriot (1991)**  
Misses to shoot down Iraqi Scud
- **Climate Orbiter (1999)**  
Confuses metrics and imperial
- **US Blackout (2003)**  
50 mln affected for 5 days
- **Social support (2004)**  
No money for millions

<http://www.tagesanzeiger.ch/digital/computer/13-Softwarefehler-die-zu-Katastrophen-fuehrten/story/21703807>















