

Presentation History

- Prepared and first presented at Korea Polytechnic University
- Missing bullet detailing Quality² added to “Balance” slide

Predictable Software Development

By Matthew Von-Maszewski

November 9th, 2001

Software Development Problem in Industry

- Time usage in Industry
 - 1/3 Planning
 - 1/6 Coding
 - 1/4 Component Test [Unit Test]
 - 1/4 System Test

[from [The Mythical Man-Month](#), by Frederic P. Brooks, Jr.]

- ~100% Time in College spent on Coding

College Coding Focuses on Function not Form

- Test Question: Which “if” statement is best?

```
void function(char * value)  
{  
    if ( *value ) { /* some action */};  
  
    if ( *value != 0 ) { /* some action */};  
  
    if ( 0 != *value ) { /* some action */};  
  
    if ( '\0' != *value ) { /* some action */};  
  
    return;  
  
} /* function */
```

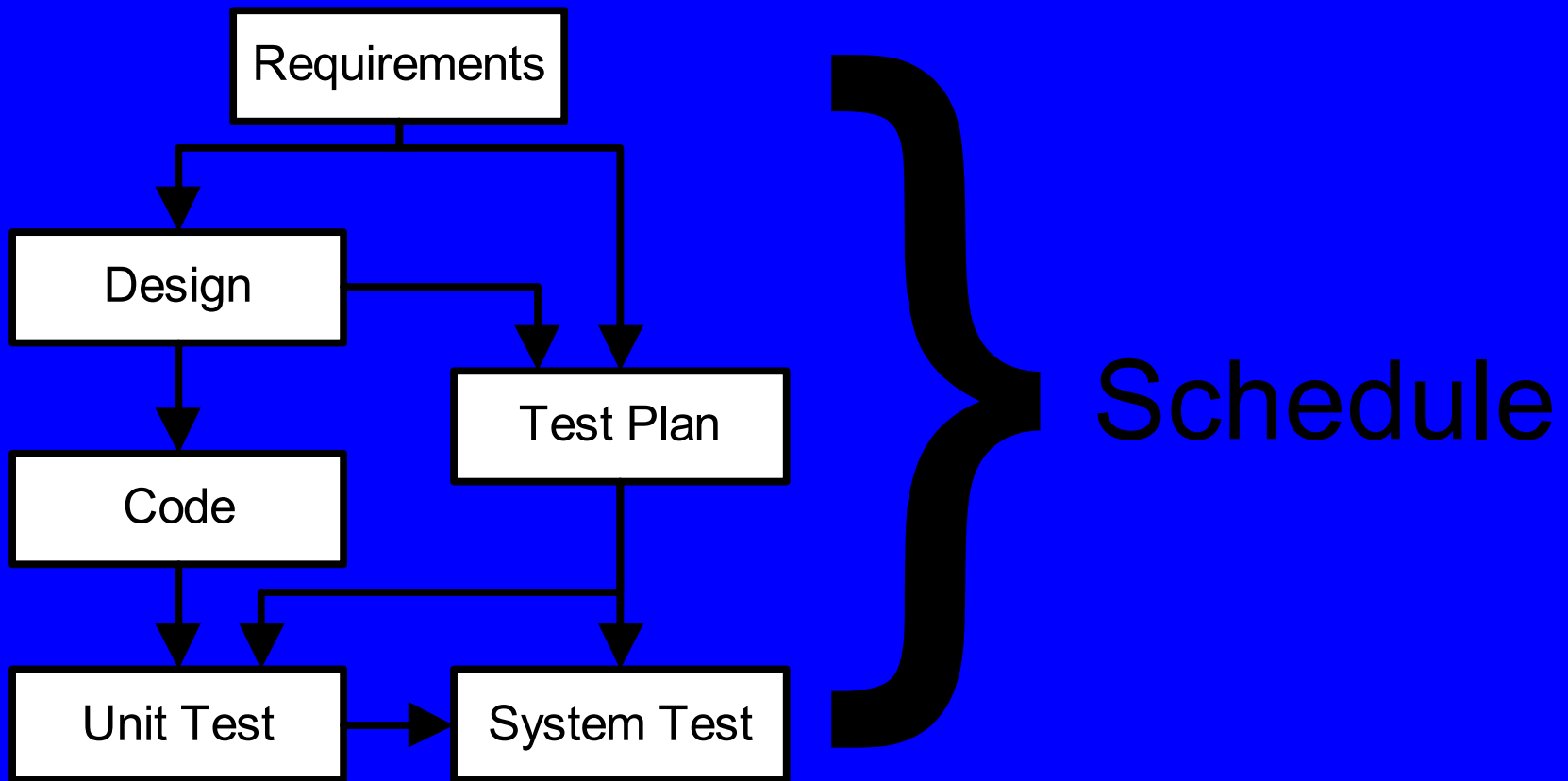
You can change this problem by grasping four Industry concepts

- Software Products have many releases
- Each product release has a plan
- A product plan has balance
- You have responsibilities

Software Products have many Releases

- Fewer features achieve earlier release
 - More customers sooner
 - More revenue sooner
- Customers explain better features for next release
 - Each release adds more features
 - Each release adds more customers
- Never delay a release for an extra feature

Each Product Release has a Plan



A Product Plan has Balance

$$\text{Schedule} = \frac{\text{Features} \times \text{Quality}^2}{\text{Staff}}$$

- This formula is not “mathematical”, it is a rule of experience
- Quality² means the quality of this product plan and the previous product plan impact this product’s schedule
- Staff can only be increased over the long term
- Features, Quality, and Schedule can be changed over the short term
- But try to never change schedule

You have Responsibilities (1)

- To the Product and its future releases:
 - Always remember that there is another release
 - Listen to the current customers to find the future customers
- To the plan:
 - Know all parts of the plan
 - Contribute actively to other parts, not just coding
- To the balance
 - Understand that Schedule is paramount
 - Help your team balance Features and Quality

You have responsibilities (2)

- To yourself: After college, continue your education
 - **Goal:** read at least one technical book per quarter
 - [Design Patterns](#), by Gamma, Helm, Johnson, and Vlissides
 - [Effective C++](#), by Scott Meyers
 - **Goal:** learn about coding as an art form
 - [Writing Solid Code](#), by Steve Maguire
 - [The Practice of Programming](#), by Kernighan and Pike
 - **Goal:** find, practice, and share good software development techniques
 - [The Capability Maturity Model](#), from Software Engineering Institute (Carnegie Mellon University)
 - [Software Testing in the Real World](#), by Edward Kit