Informatics 111 / CSE 121: Software Tools and Methods

Homework 3

Due Thursday, October 27, 2011 at 11:00pm

Part 1. No Silver Bullet (40 points)

1.1 What is the difference between essential difficulties and accidental difficulties? (10 points)

1.2 What are the four irreducible sources of essential difficulties? For each one,
    i) give a brief explanation, and
    ii) discuss whether you believe it is addressed by current software technology; if it is, give an example; if it is not, discuss why not. (15 points)

1.3 Brooks identified four promising attacks on the conceptual essence of software development. What are these four? Give a brief explanation of each. Why are none of these promising attacks tools? (15 points)

Handing In Your Homework

Please put your name, student number, and date at the top of the first page of the assignment.

Your assignment must be submitted electronically to checkmate.ics.uci.edu. (CSE 121 students, please send in your assignment through Informatics 111.) You will submit one file in either Word or PDF format, i.e. in a file with a `.doc` or `.pdf` extension.