

# Software Reliability Engineering

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# OUTLINE

- ☞ Motivations
- ☞ Methods for software reliability engineering
  - Data collection and analysis
    - ☞ Data collection and validation
    - ☞ Descriptive statistics
    - ☞ Trend analysis
  - Software dependability evaluation
    - ☞ Reliability growth models
    - ☞ Models in stable reliability
    - ☞ Controlled experimentation
- ☞ The maturity Process
- ☞ Case studies
- ☞ References

# Why Software Reliability Engineering?

- ➡ Increasing role of software in real life systems
- ➡ System dependability is more and more synonymous of software reliability
- ➡ Difficulties in mastering the software development process and in reducing design faults for complex systems
- ➡ Increasing cost of system non-dependability
- ➡ Real needs for improving software reliability to improve system dependability and reduce maintenance cost
- ➡ Dependability requirements are part of system requirements (as important as functional requirements)
- ➡ Quantification is essential

# Objectives of software reliability engineering

## ☞ Short term

- Manage and improve the reliability of the software
- Check the efficiency of development activities
- Estimate the software reliability at the end of validation activities and in operation
- Estimate the maintenance effort to “correct” faults activated during development and residual faults in operation

## ☞ Long term

- Capitalize experience
- Improve software reliability of successive generations

☞ ***Needs for experimental & analytical methods and techniques to reach these objectives***

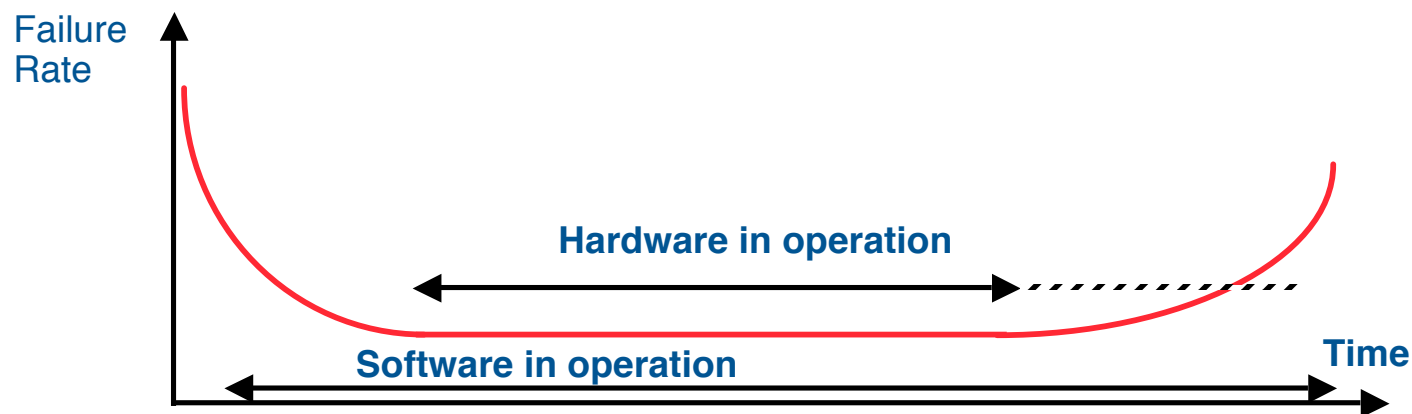
# Software vs hardware reliability

## Hardware

- Physical faults
- Operational life
- Stable reliability (constant failure rate)
- White-box approach
- Markov models
- Database for components failures

## Software

- Only design faults
- Development and operation
- Reliability growth ( $\downarrow$  failure rate)
- Usually black-box approach
- Specific models
- Based on data collection



# Objectives of Software Reliability Engineering

## ☞ Supplier point of view

- During development:

- ☞ development follow up  
(failure intensity, fault density)
- ☞ evaluation of software reliability before operation  
(MTTF, pre-operational failure rate)

- During operation

- ☞ product reliability follow up  
(residual failure rate, MTTF)
- ☞ maintenance planning  
(cumulative number of failures)

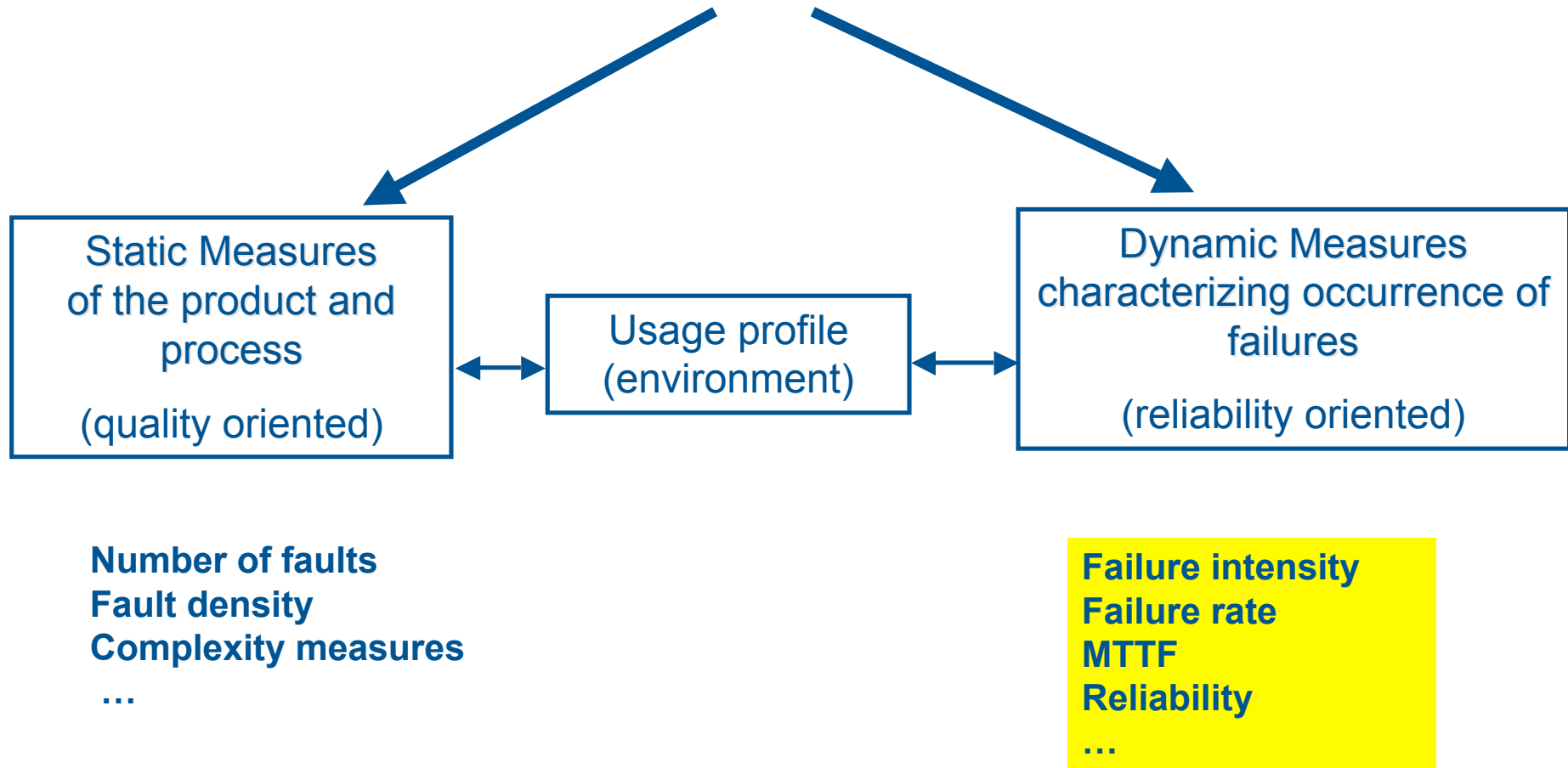
## ☞ Users / customers, operational life

- ☞ be confident in the reliability level of the product  
(residual failure rate, MTTF)

# Difficulties

- ☞ Non-repetitive process
- ☞ No relationship between failures and corrections
- ☞ Continuous evolution of usage profile
  - According to the development phase
  - Within each phase
- ☞ Overselling of reliability growth models
- ☞ Judgement on quality of the software developers
- ☞ What is software reliability?
  - ☞ Residual number of faults, fault density, complexity measures?
  - ☞ MTTF, failure intensity, failure rate?

# Measures

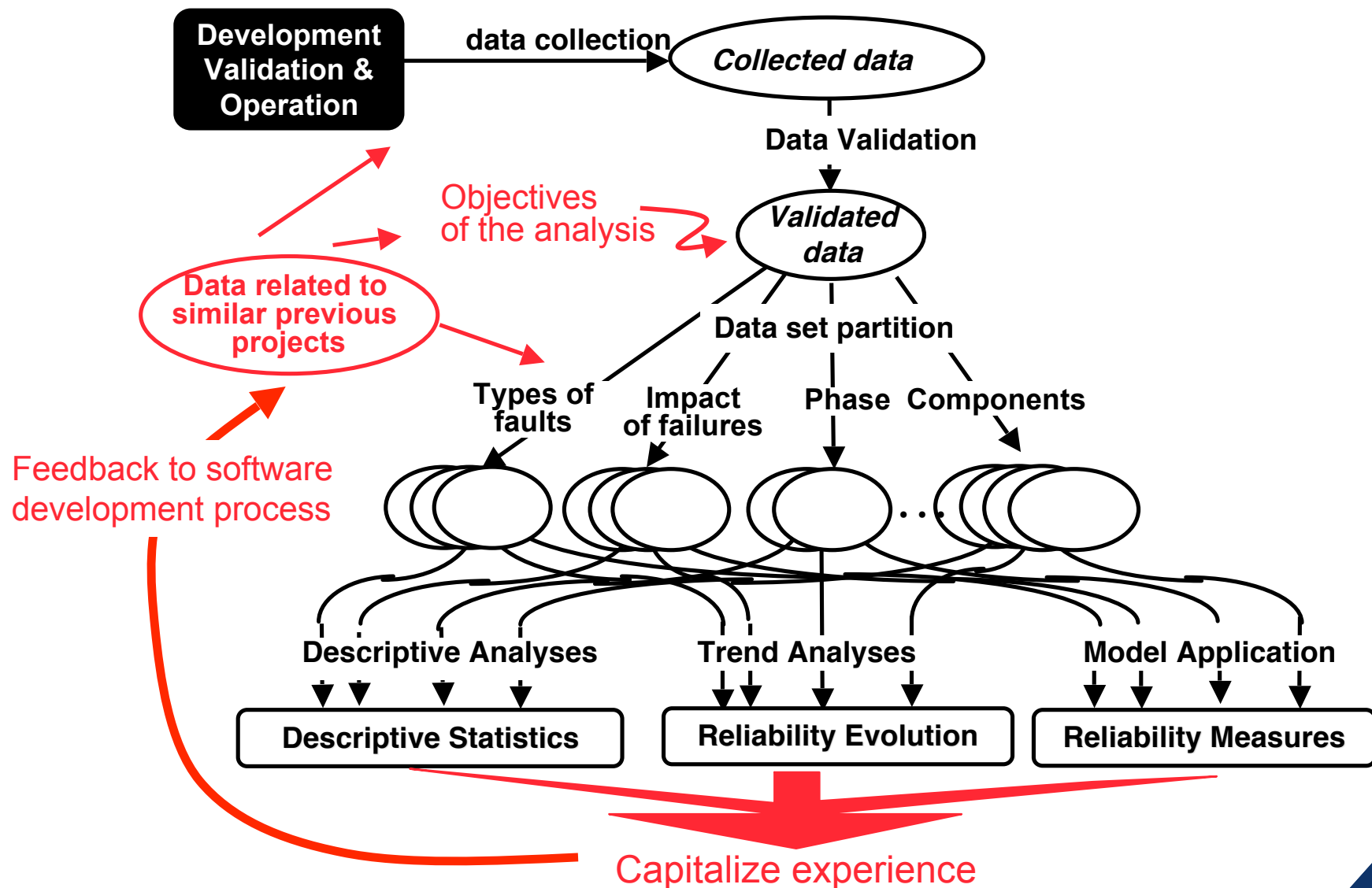




**Example:**  
Percentage of faults and corresponding MTTF (published by IBM)

						←			
MTTF (years) Product		5000	1580	500	158	50	15.8	5	1.58
1		34,2	28,8	17,8	10,3	5,0	2,1	1,2	0,7
2		34,3	28,0	18,2	9,7	4,5	3,2	1,5	0,7
3		33,7	28,5	18,0	8,7	6,5	2,8	1,4	0,4
4		34,2	28,5	18,7	11,9	4,4	2,0	0,3	0,1
5		34,2	28,5	18,4	9,4	4,4	2,9	1,4	0,7
6		32,0	28,2	20,1	11,5	5,0	2,1	0,8	0,3
7		34,0	28,5	18,5	9,9	4,5	2,7	1,4	0,6
8		31,9	27,1	18,4	11,1	6,5	2,7	1,4	1,1
9		31,2	27,6	20,4	12,8	5,6	1,9	0,5	0,0
						←			

# Overview of a global reliability analysis method



# Setting up of a data collection process

## ☞ Some rules

- Define clearly the objectives and the data to be collected
- Motivate and imply people that will be involved
- Simplify the collection process and reduce the number of data items to be collected
  - ☞ Support tools
  - ☞ Practical organization of people involved
- Record and analyze data in real-time
- Feedback

## ☞ Origin of collected data

- Internal: recorded during development and validation
- External: by the customers

# Data to be collected

## ☞ Background information

- Product itself: software size, language, functions, current version, workload
- Usage environment: verification and validation methods, tools, etc.

## ☞ Data relative to failures and corrections

- Date of occurrence, nature of failures, consequences
- Type of faults, fault location

## ☞ Usually, recorded through

- Failure Reports (FR)
- Correction Reports (CR)

## ☞ Well defined headings, well structured, easy to fill in

## ☞ Short tick-off questions

## ☞ Manually or automatically

## ☞ Failure Report (FR)

### Required Information

- Serial number (for identification)
- Report editor
- Product reference, version affected (or prototype)
- Date and time of failure occurrence

### Desirable Information

- Failure occurrence condition
- Failure criticality or consequences
- Affected function or task
- Action proposed (if any)

## ✎ Correction Report (CR)

### Required information

- Serial number (for identification)
- Report editor
- Date of correction
- Correction nature
- Product reference
- Reference to the FR

### Desirable Information

- Identification of the modified components

## ✎ Integration with already existing data collection programs

## ✎ Importance of training

# Data Validation

## 👉 Objectives

- check the validity and usability of the information recorded
- Keep only genuine software faults in the database

## 👉 Elimination of:

- Duplicated data (FR reporting of the same failure)
- FR proposing a correction related to an already existing FR (COR)
- False FR (signalling a false or non identified problem)
- FR proposing an improvement (IMPROVE)
- incomplete FRs or FRs containing inconsistent data (Unusable)
- FR related to a hardware failure
- ...

# Example 1: a telecommunications equipment

(analyzed at LAAS)

☞ 2 146 Failure Reports

☞ Validation  $\Rightarrow$  1 172 kept in the database

☞ Discarded RFs:

Duplicated FRs	816	38.0%
COR	53	2.5%
False FR	29	1.4%
IMPROVE	21	1.0%
Unusable	20	0.9%
Hardware	35	1.6%
Total	974	45.4%



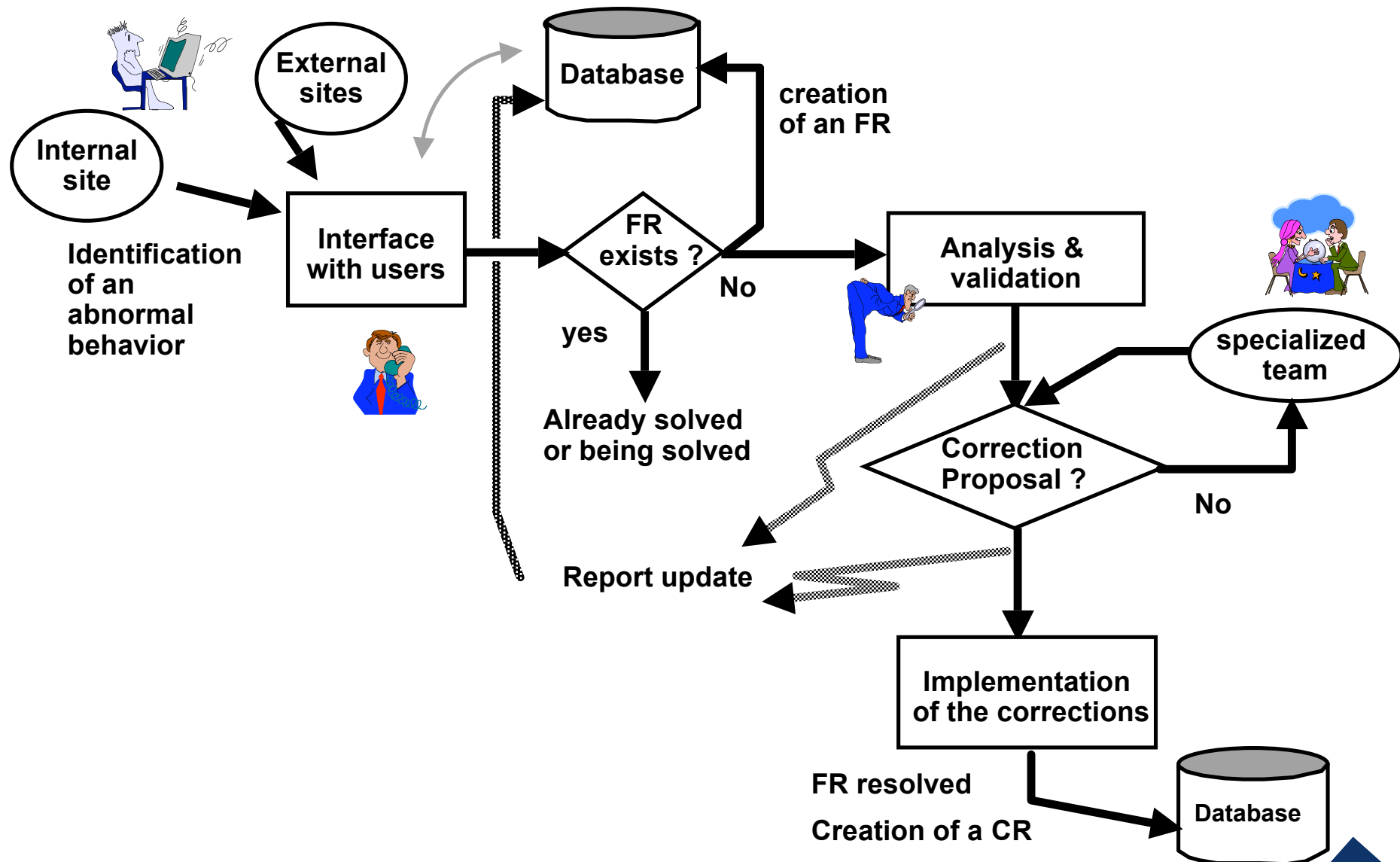
## Example 2: a telephone switching system

(analyzed at LAAS)

- ☞ 3063 FRs
- ☞ Validation  $\Rightarrow$  1853 Software FRs kept in the database
- ☞ Discarded RFs:

Hardware	195	(6%)
Documentation	165	(5%)
Unusable, duplicated, ...	716	(24%)
Others	134	(4%)
Total	1210	(39 %)

# Life cycle of Failure and Correction Reports (FRs/CRs)



# DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS

- ☞ Aim: make syntheses of the observed phenomena
- ☞ Simple analyses
  - Fault typology
  - Fault density of components
  - Failure / fault distribution among software components (new, modified, reused)
- ☞ Investigation of relationships
  - Fault density / size / complexity
  - Fault density / life cycle phase
  - Nature of faults / life cycle phases
  - Nature of faults / components
  - Number of components affected by changes made to resolve an FR
- ☞ Analyses related to the development / debugging process

# Analyses related to the development process

## ☞ Factors affecting time to locate and solve problems

- The more FRs circulating, the more time it takes to handle each one
- Tendency to resolve the easier FRs first, the remaining ones take more time
- Loss of maintainability with continued changes to resolve faults
- Introduction of new faults while resolving the old

## ☞ Average time to resolve an FR

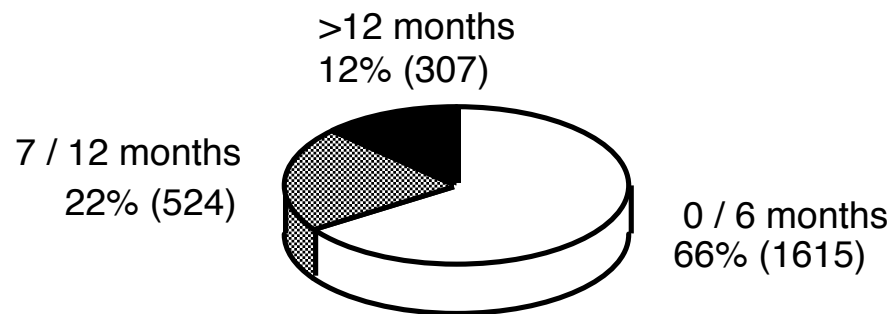
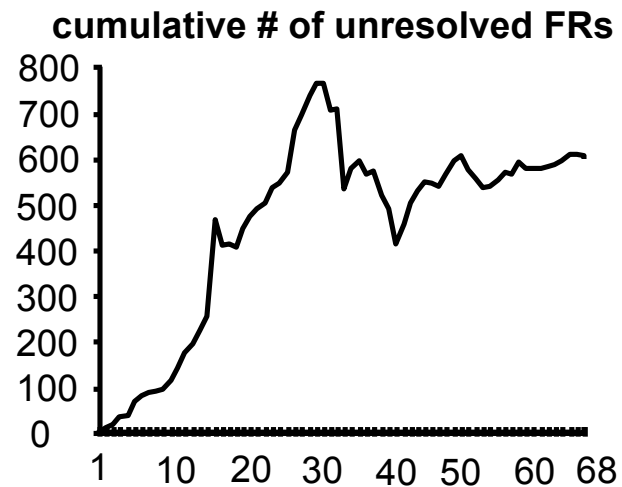
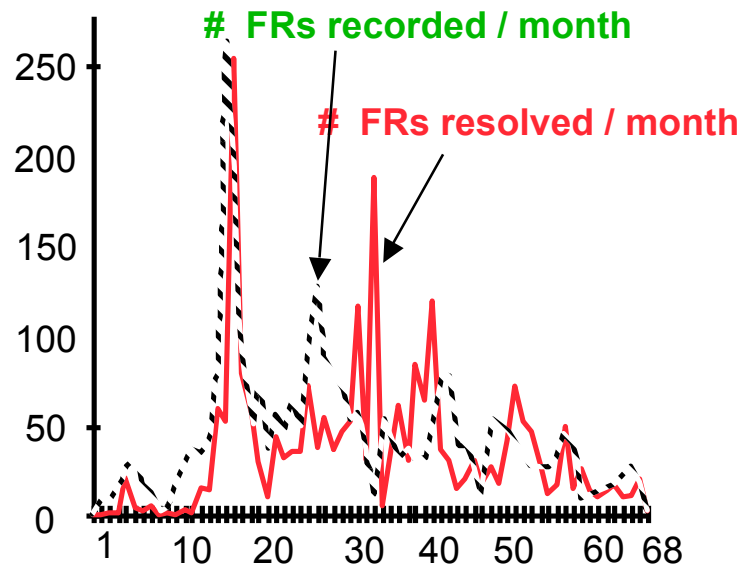
Modification request time =

Time when the FR is resolved - time when it is created

## Measures

- Responsiveness of the field support system
- Complexity of maintenance

## Case of the switching system of Example 2

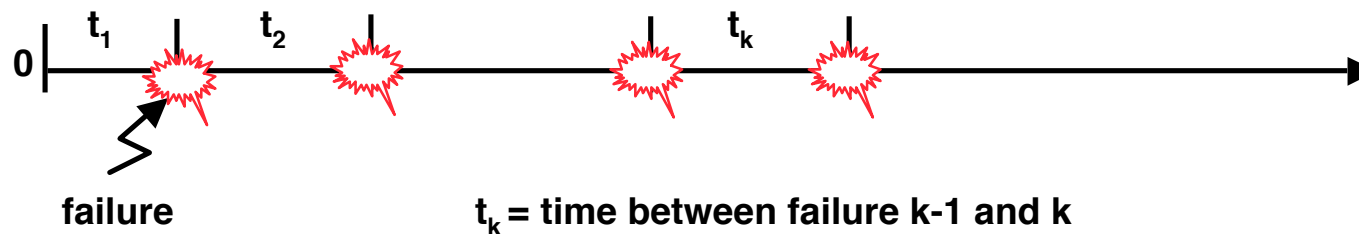


Time to resolve an FR

# Data pre-processing for reliability analysis

## Two kinds of data sets can be extracted from FRs and CRs

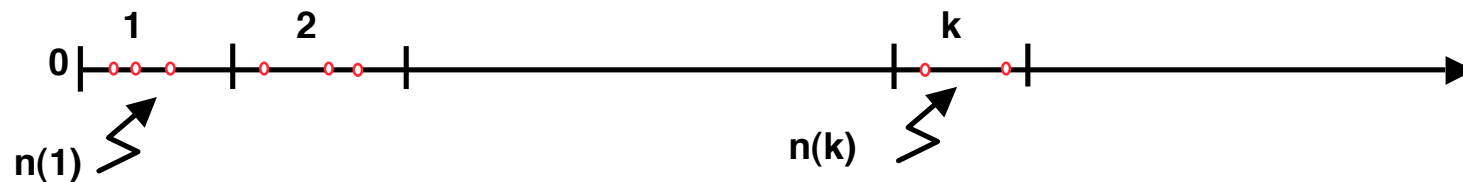
- Time to failures (or between failures)



- Grouped data

Number of failures per unit of time,  $n(k)$

Cumulative number of failures  $N(k)$



# Time ?

## ☞ Time between failures

- Execution time
- Wall clock or Calendar time
- Number of executions

## ☞ Number of failures per unit of time

- The length of the unit time depends on:
  - ☞ accuracy expected for the dependability measures
  - ☞ number of observed failures
  - ☞ objectives of the study

## Example A: Times between failures

- 👉 Real-time control system (Musa 1)

- 136 failures observed during system test (96 days)

	#	T <sub>i</sub>	Dy	#	T <sub>i</sub>	Dy	#	T <sub>i</sub>	Dy	#	T <sub>i</sub>	Dy	#	T <sub>i</sub>	Dy	#	T <sub>i</sub>	Dy
# : number of failures	1	3	1	25	422	31	49	816	56	73	810	64	97	261	72	121	75	80
	2	30	2	26	180	32	50	1351	56	74	290	64	98	1800	73	122	482	80
	3	113	9	27	10	32	51	148	56	75	300	64	99	865	73	123	5509	81
	4	81	10	28	1146	33	52	21	57	76	529	65	100	1435	74	124	100	81
	5	115	11	29	600	34	53	233	57	77	281	65	101	30	74	125	10	81
	6	9	11	30	15	42	54	134	57	78	160	65	102	143	74	126	1071	83
	7	2	17	31	36	42	55	357	57	79	828	66	103	108	74	127	371	83
T <sub>i</sub> : times between failures (in seconds)	8	91	20	32	4	46	56	193	59	80	1011	66	104	0	74	128	790	83
	9	112	20	33	0	46	57	236	59	81	445	66	105	3110	75	129	6150	83
	10	15	20	34	8	46	58	31	59	82	296	66	106	1247	76	130	3321	83
	11	138	20	35	227	46	59	369	59	83	1755	67	107	943	76	131	1045	84
	12	50	20	36	65	46	60	748	59	84	1064	67	108	700	76	132	648	84
	13	77	20	37	476	46	61	0	59	85	1783	68	109	875	77	133	5485	87
	14	24	20	38	58	46	62	232	59	86	860	68	110	245	77	134	1160	87
Dy: day of observation	15	108	20	39	457	47	63	330	59	87	983	68	111	729	77	135	1864	88
	16	88	20	40	300	47	64	365	61	88	707	69	112	4897	78	136	4116	92
	17	670	30	41	97	47	65	1222	62	89	33	69	113	447	79			
	18	120	30	42	263	47	66	543	63	90	868	69	114	386	79			
	19	26	30	43	452	53	67	10	63	91	724	69	115	446	79			
	20	114	30	44	255	53	68	16	63	92	2323	70	116	122	79			
	21	325	30	45	197	54	69	529	64	93	2930	71	117	990	79			
	22	55	30	46	193	54	70	379	64	94	1461	72	118	948	80			
	23	242	31	47	6	54	71	44	64	95	843	72	119	1082	80			
	24	68	31	48	79	54	72	129	64	96	12	72	120	22	80			



# Example B

## Number of failures per unit of time or Cumulative

☞ Switching system

- 52 failures in operation (15 months)

i: unit of time (week)

n(i): number of failures  
per unit of time

NC(i): cumulative  
number of failures

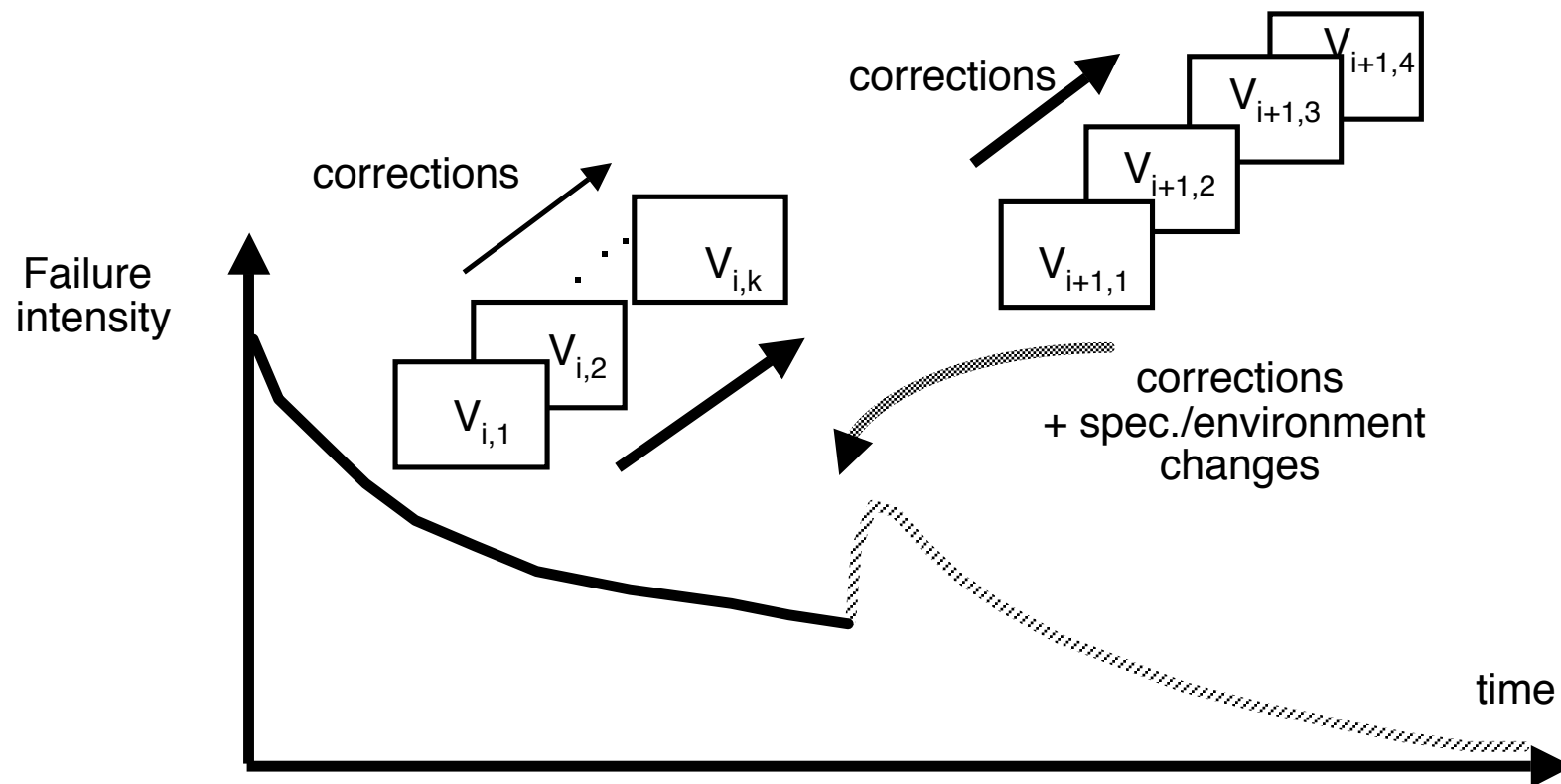
NS(i): number of systems  
in operation at i

i	n(i)	NC(i)	NS(i)	i	n(i)	NC(i)	NS(i)	i	n(i)	NC(i)	NS(i)
1	2	2	4	24	1	30	36	47	0	37	42
2	0	2	10	25	1	31	36	48	0	37	42
3	2	4	10	26	0	31	36	49	0	37	42
4	1	5	10	27	0	31	36	50	1	38	42
5	1	6	10	28	1	32	38	51	0	38	42
6	0	6	12	29	1	32	40	52	1	39	42
7	2	8	12	30	0	32	40	53	1	40	42
8	1	9	12	31	0	32	40	54	0	40	42
9	2	11	12	32	0	32	40	55	0	40	42
10	5	16	12	33	0	32	42	56	1	41	42
11	2	18	13	34	0	32	42	57	1	42	42
12	1	19	13	35	0	32	42	58	6	48	42
13	2	21	13	36	1	33	42	59	0	48	42
14	0	21	13	37	0	33	42	60	0	48	42
15	0	21	21	38	0	33	42	61	0	48	42
16	0	21	21	39	0	33	42	62	1	49	42
17	0	21	21	40	0	33	42	63	0	49	42
18	1	22	21	41	0	33	42	64	0	49	42
19	1	22	21	42	0	33	42	65	0	49	42
20	2	24	28	43	1	34	42	66	1	50	42
21	1	25	28	44	2	36	42	67	0	50	42
22	0	25	28	45	0	36	42				
23	4	29	28	46	1	37	42				

# Trend analysis

## Objectives:

- Analyze software reliability evolution
- Identify periods of reliability growth and decrease



[See references 9 or 10]

# Reliability growth characterization

☞ Variable: time to failure

- $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  : time between failure  $i$  and  $i-1$

☞ Reliability growth:  $T_i \leq_{st} T_k \quad \forall i < k$

☞ Prob.  $\{T_i < x\} \geq \text{Prob. } \{T_k \leq x\} \Rightarrow F_{T_i}(x) \geq F_{T_k}(x) \quad \forall i < k \quad \forall x$

☞ Variable: number of failures

- $N(t_1), N(t_2), \dots, N(t_n)$  : cumulative number of failures between 0 and  $t_i$

- $H(t_i) = E[N(t_i)]$  = expectation of  $N(t_i)$

- If  $N(t_i)$  is a Non Homogeneous Poisson Process (NHPP):

☞ reliability growth if  $H(t_1) + H(t_2) \geq H(t_1 + t_2) \quad \forall t_1, t_2 \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq t_1 + t_2 \leq T$

(inequality is strict for at least a pair  $t_1, t_2$ )

$N(t)$  is a subadditive function

# Interpretation of Subadditivity

$$H(t_1) + H(t_2) \geq H(t_1 + t_2) \quad \forall t_1, t_2 \geq 0 \text{ and } 0 \leq t_1 + t_2 \leq T$$

The number of events in an interval of the form  $[0, t_2]$  is larger than the number of events taking place in an interval of the same length beginning later (i.e. in the form of  $[T, T+t_2]$ ) The number of failures is decreasing

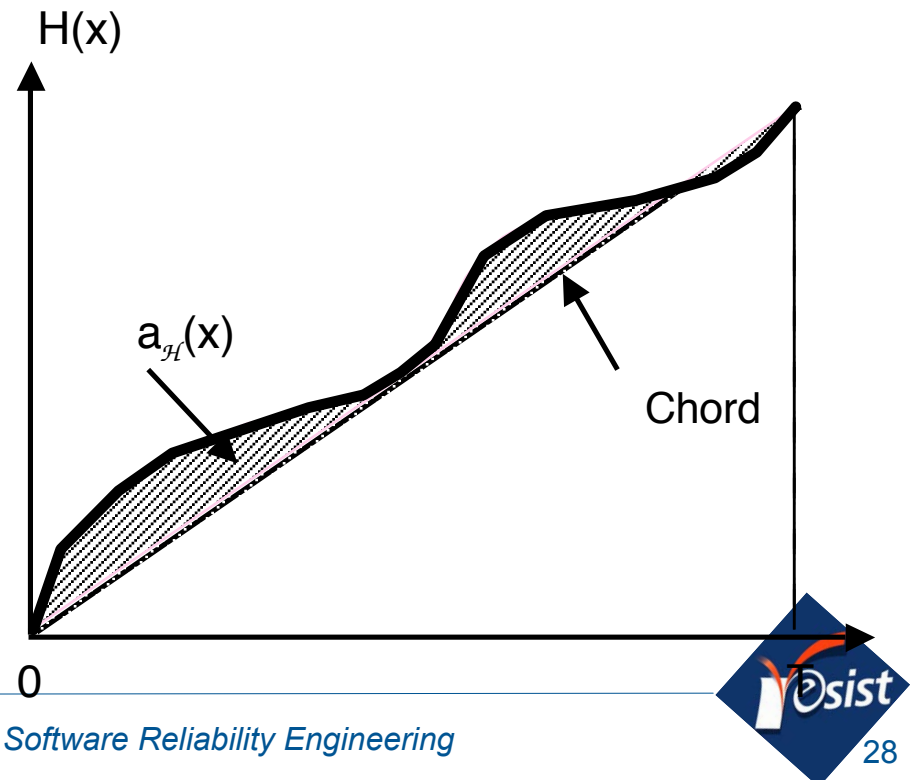
## Graphical interpretation

- $H(t) = E[N(t)]$  is subadditive over  $[0, T]$  if:

$$a_{\mathcal{H}}(t) = \int_0^t H(x) dx - \frac{t}{2} H(t) \geq 0$$

$$\forall t \geq 0 \text{ and } 0 \leq t \leq T$$

$a_{\mathcal{H}}(t)$  = subadditivity factor



# Trend tests

## ☞ Means

- Raw data  $\Rightarrow$  graphical tests
- Analytical tests  $\Rightarrow$  quantitative indicators

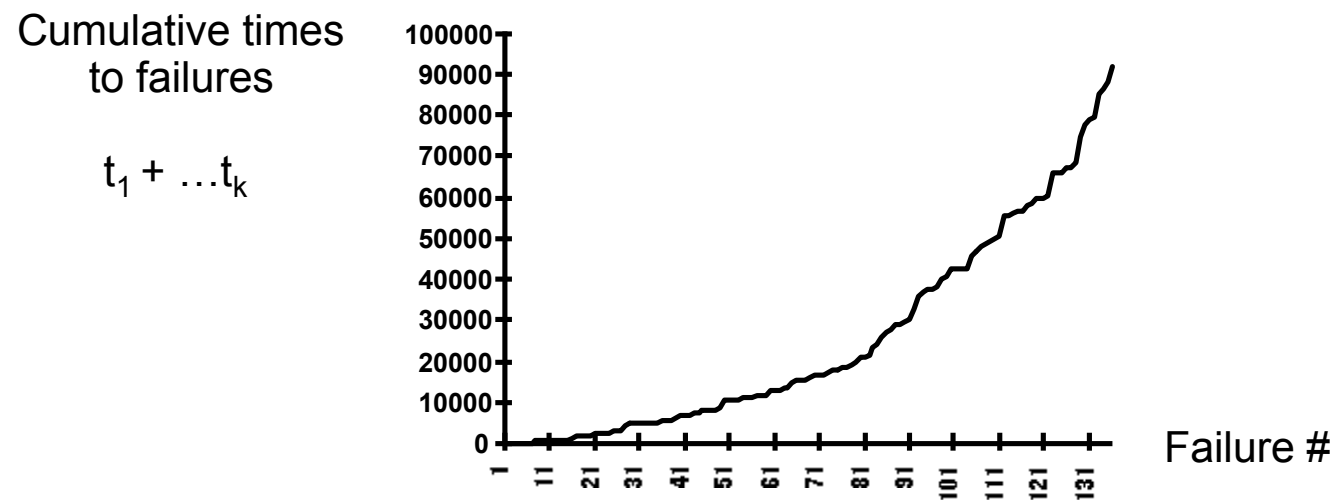
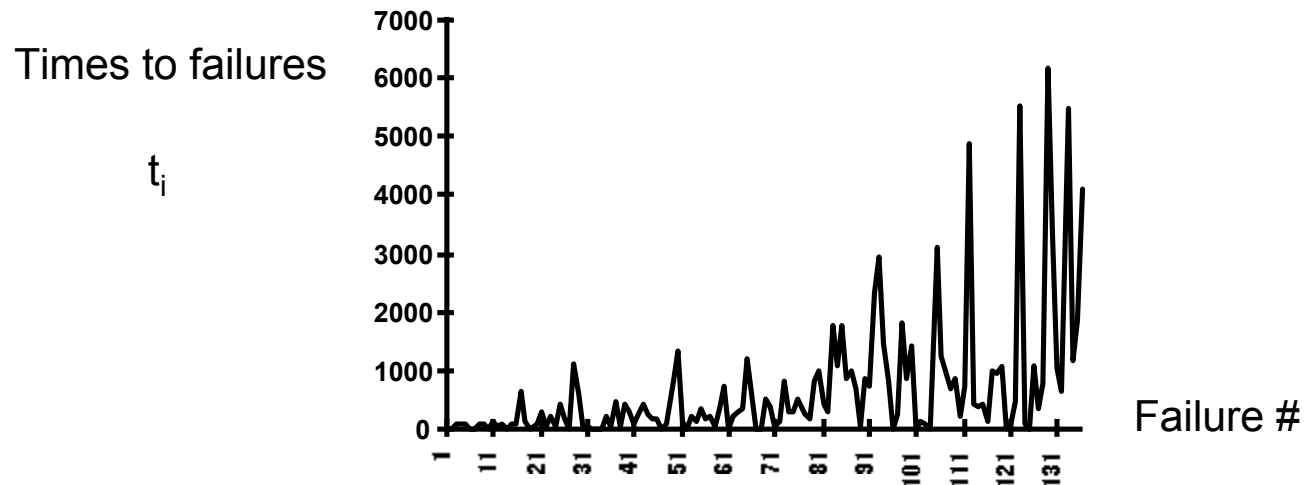
## ☞ Raw data

- Times to successive failures
- Number of failures per unit of time
- Cumulative number of failures

## ☞ Trend indicators

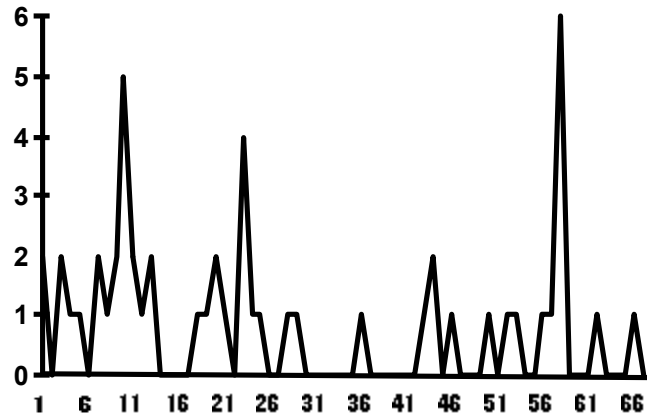
- Empirical (arithmetical) means
- Subadditivity factor
- Laplace factor

## Graphical tests: times to failures (Example A)

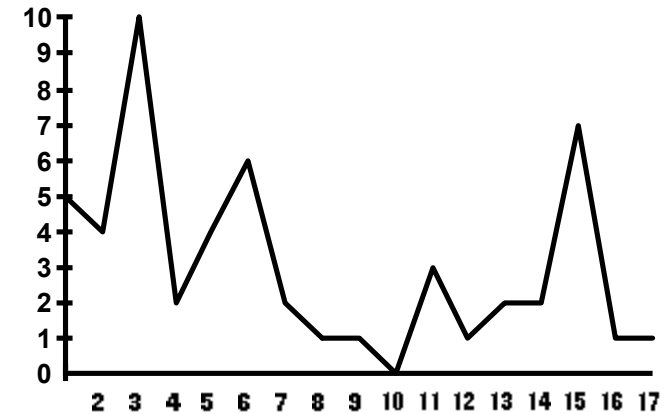


## Graphical test: grouped data (Example B)

Failure  
intensity

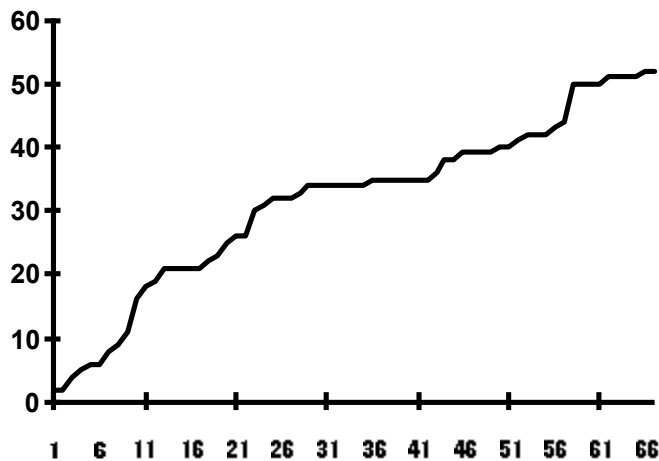


unit of time = one week

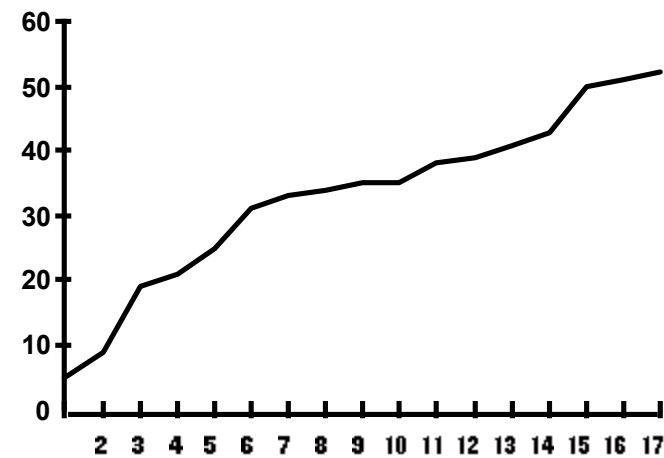


unit of time = 4 weeks

Cumulative  
number of  
failures



unit of time = one week



unit of time = 4 weeks

# Empirical mean

Global trend

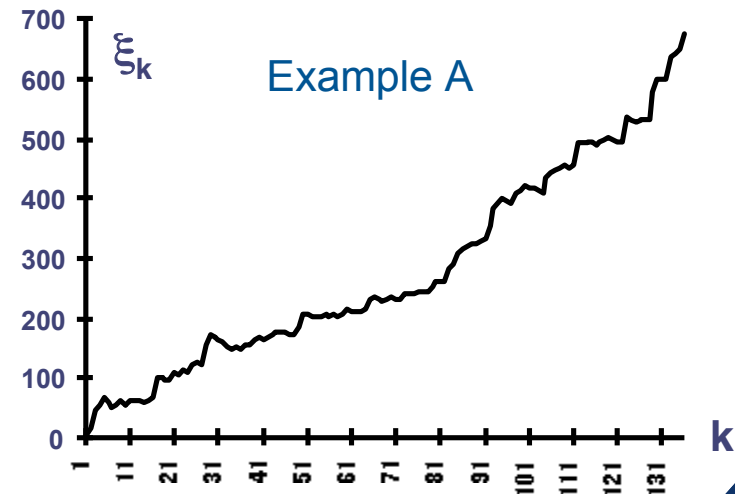
$\xi_k$  : arithmetical mean of the times to failures (from failure 1 to k)

$$\xi_k = \frac{t_1 + t_2 + \dots + t_k}{k}$$

$\xi_k$  constitute a globally increasing series  $\in$  reliability growth

$\xi_k$  constitute a globally decreasing series  $\in$  reliability decrease

The trend is directly observed on the evolution of  $\xi_k$



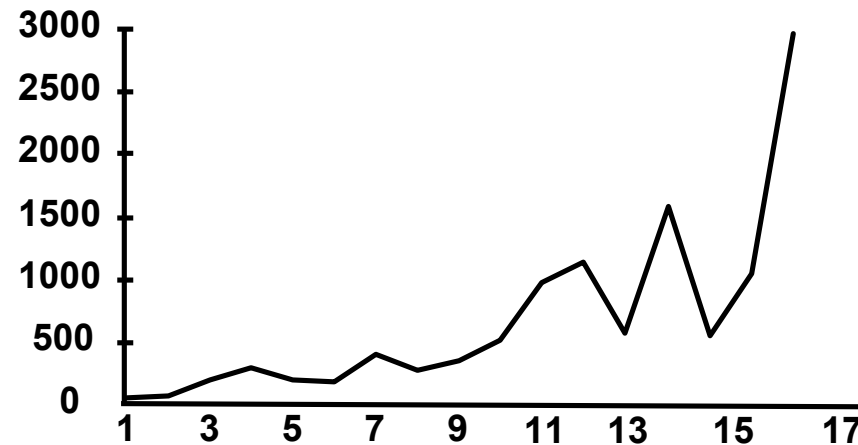


# Empirical mean

## ☞ Local trend

- The data items are grouped into subsets containing  $m$  successive data
- The average is evaluated for each subset
- The impact of old data items is eliminated

## ☞ Example A: $m = 8 \Rightarrow 17$ groups (136 failures)



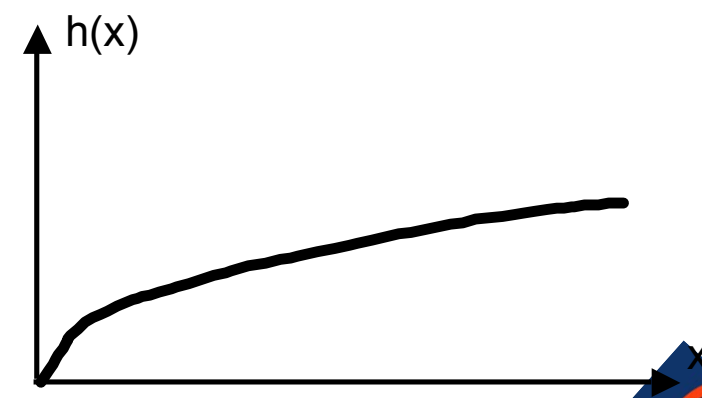
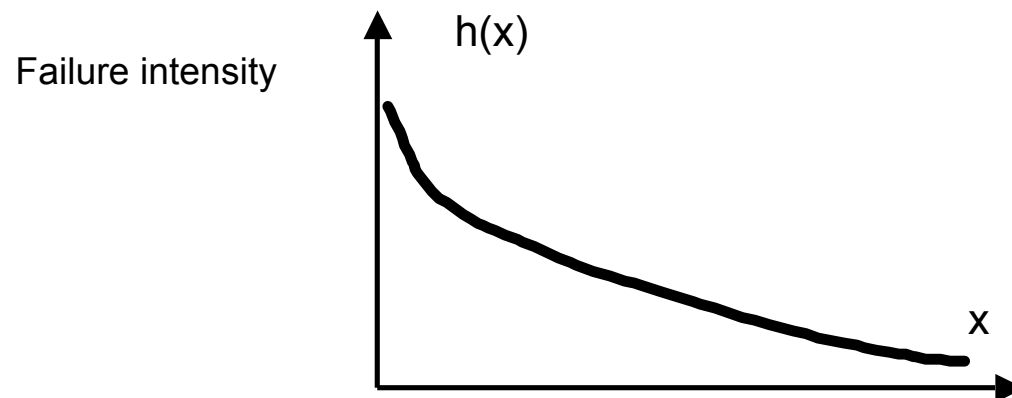
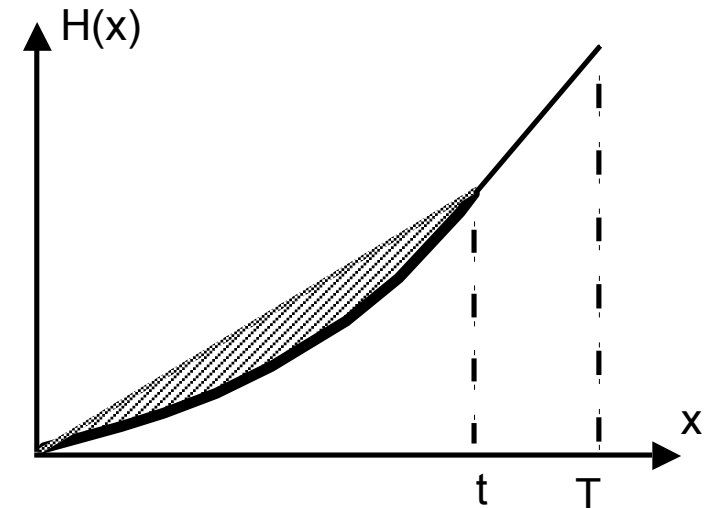
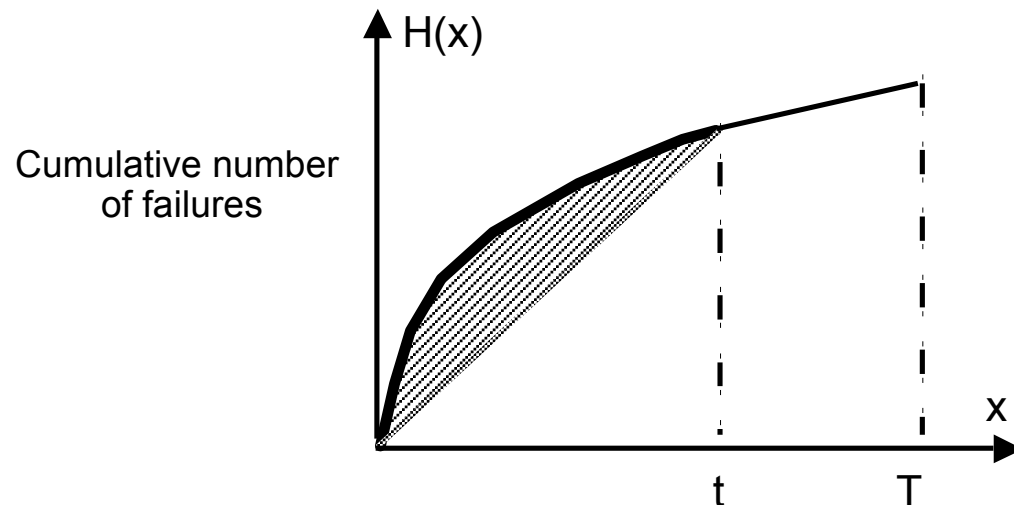
# Subadditivity & monotonous growth / decrease

Monotonous growth:

$a_H(x) > 0$  increasing

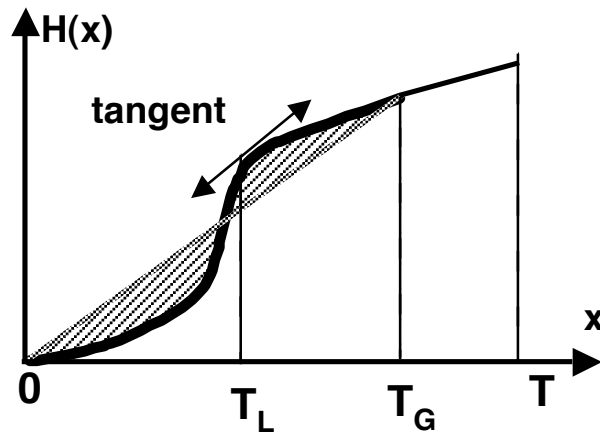
Monotonous decrease:

$a_H(x) < 0$  decreasing

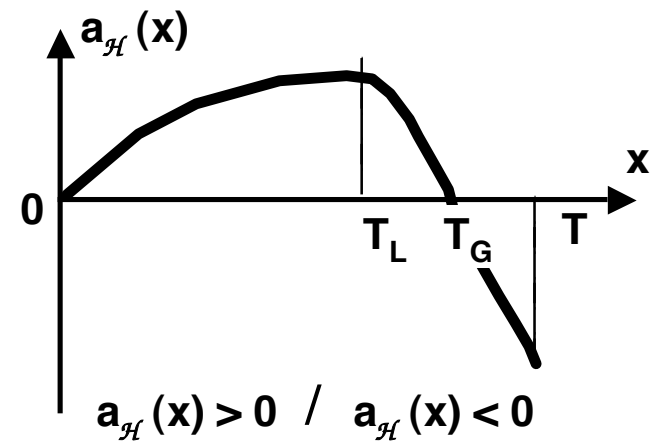
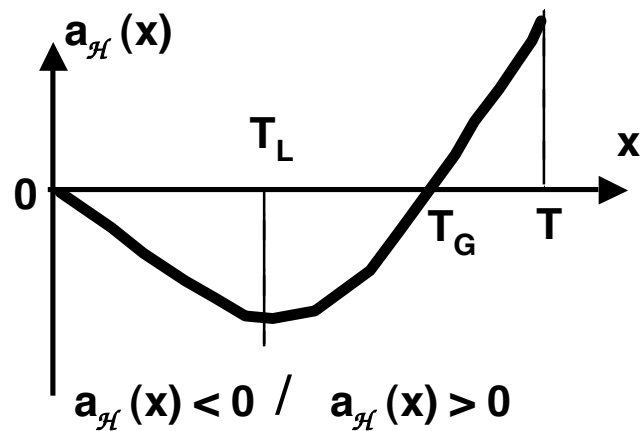
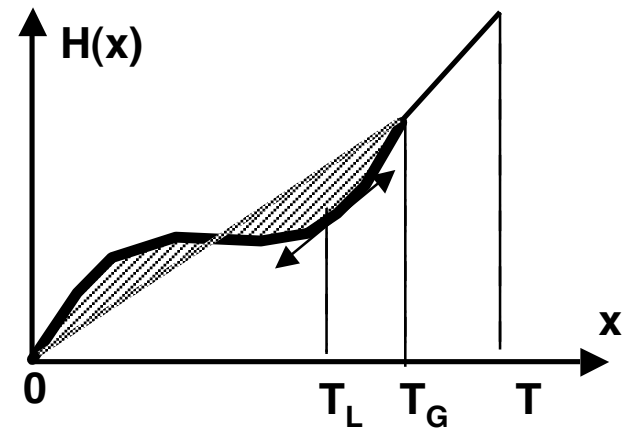


# Subadditivity & trend change

Decrease - Growth



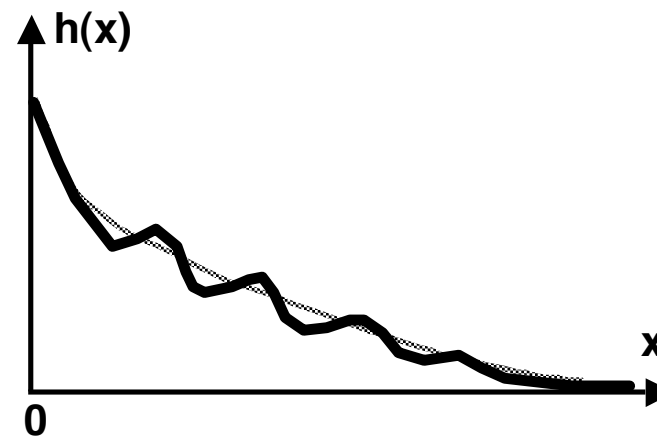
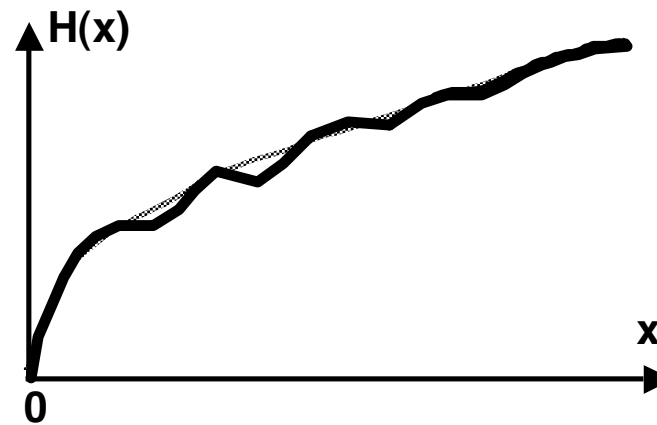
Growth - Decrease



# Subadditivity & local trend fluctuations

Example: reliability growth with local fluctuations

$a_{\mathcal{H}}(x) \geq 0$  non decreasing



# Laplace factor

👉 Statistical Test of hypothesis  $\Rightarrow$  Laplace factor  $u$

Random variable: times to failures  $T_i$  (realization of  $T_i = t_i$ )

$$u(T) = \frac{\frac{1}{N(T)} \sum_{i=1}^{N(T)} \sum_{j=1}^i t_j - \frac{T}{2}}{T \sqrt{\frac{1}{12 N(T)}}} \quad N(T) = \# \text{ failures in } [0, T]$$

- $\frac{T}{2}$  = mid of the observation interval
- $c = \frac{1}{N(T)} \sum_{i=1}^{N(T)} \sum_{j=1}^i t_j$  = statistical centre

👉 In practice

$u > 0 \Rightarrow$  global reliability decrease

$u < 0 \Rightarrow$  global reliability growth

- Random variable: # failures per unit of time

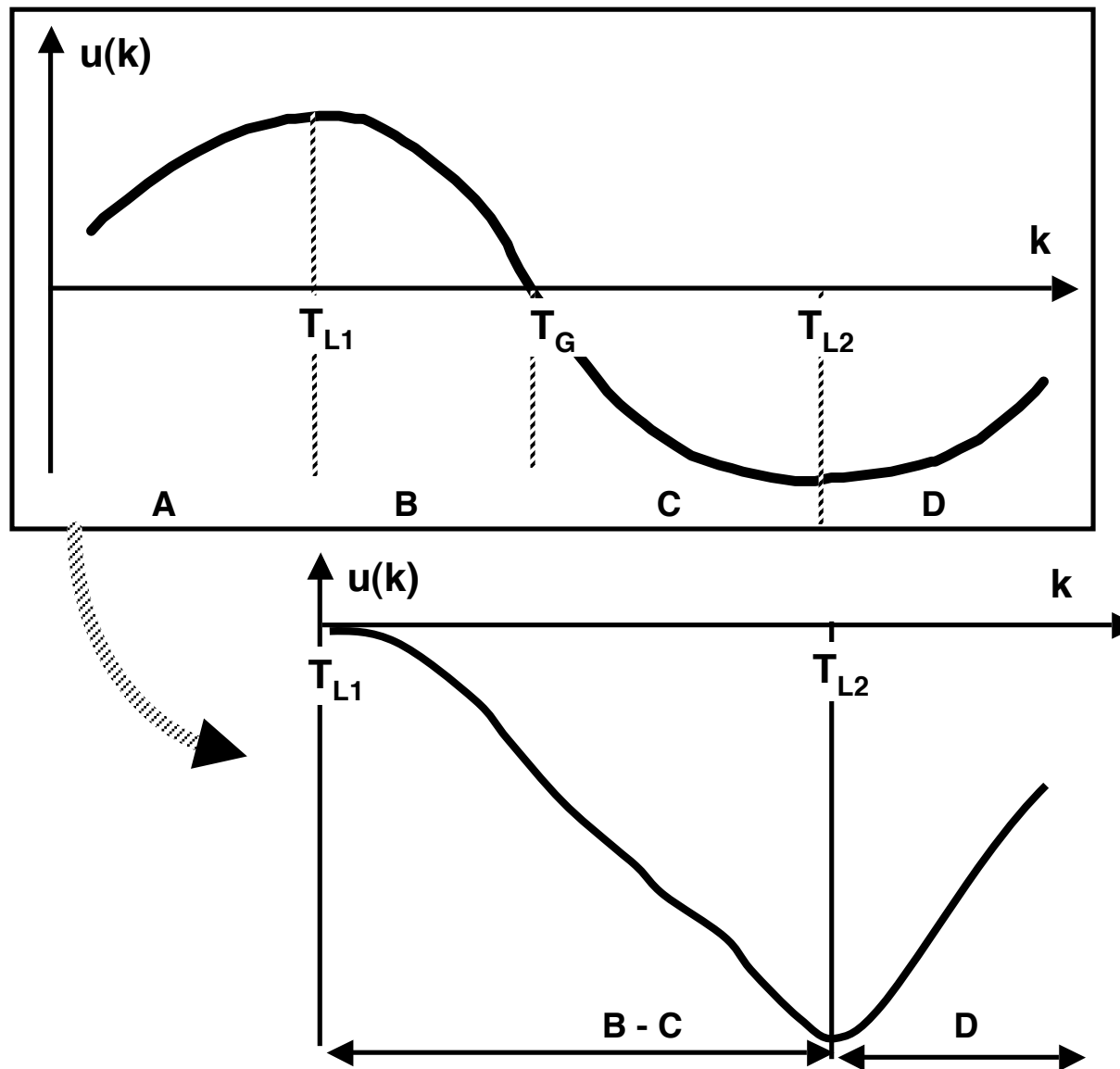
$$u(T) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k (i-1) n(i) - \frac{k-1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^k n(i)}{\sqrt{\frac{k^2-1}{12} \sum_{i=1}^k n(i)}} \quad n(i) = \# \text{ failure during time unit } i$$

- Can be put in the form:

$$u(T) = - \frac{a_{\mathcal{H}}(T)}{T \sqrt{\frac{1}{12 N(T)}}}$$

The graph illustrates the relationship between Global Trend and Local Trend in reliability analysis. The vertical axis is labeled **GLOBAL TREND** and the horizontal axis is labeled **LOCAL TREND**. The vertical axis has two sections: **Reliability decrease** (top) and **Reliability growth** (bottom). The horizontal axis has four sections: **A** (Reliability decrease), **B** (Reliability growth), **C** (Reliability decrease), and **D** (Reliability decrease). The graph shows a curve  $u(k)$  that starts in the **Reliability decrease** region, crosses the horizontal axis at  $T_{L1}$ , reaches a peak, crosses the axis again at  $T_G$ , reaches a trough, crosses the axis at  $T_{L2}$ , and then rises. Arrows labeled **Local trend changes** point to the peaks and troughs of the curve. The horizontal axis is labeled **k**.

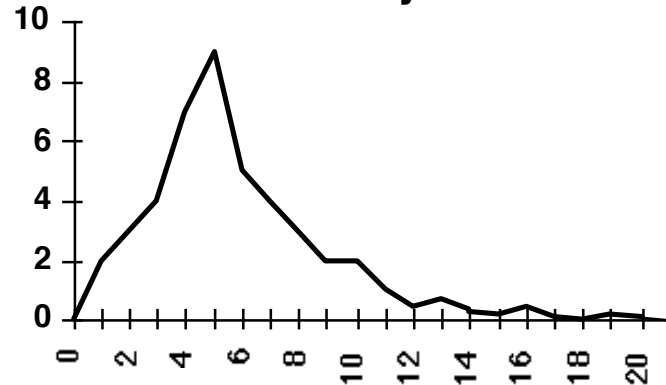
## Change of time origin



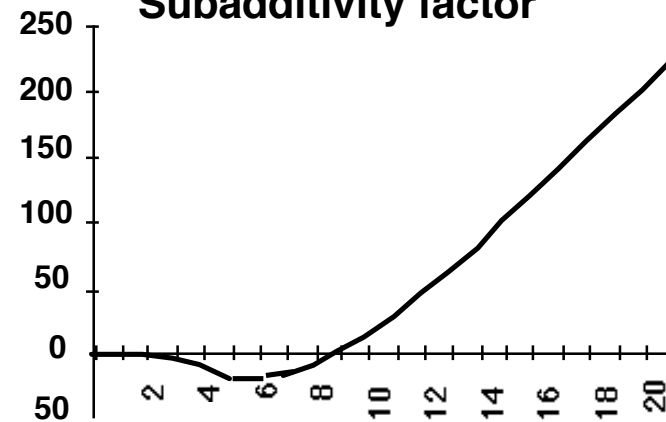


## Link : graphical tests - Laplace - Subadditivity

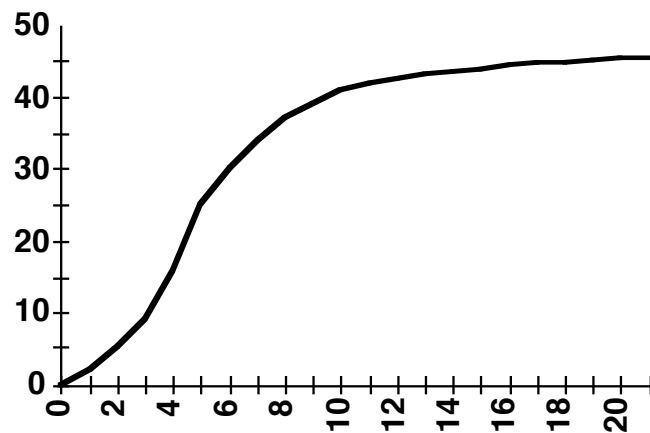
**Failure intensity**



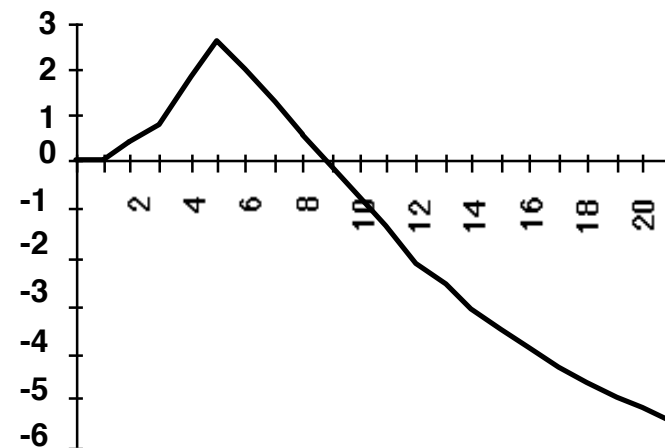
**Subadditivity factor**



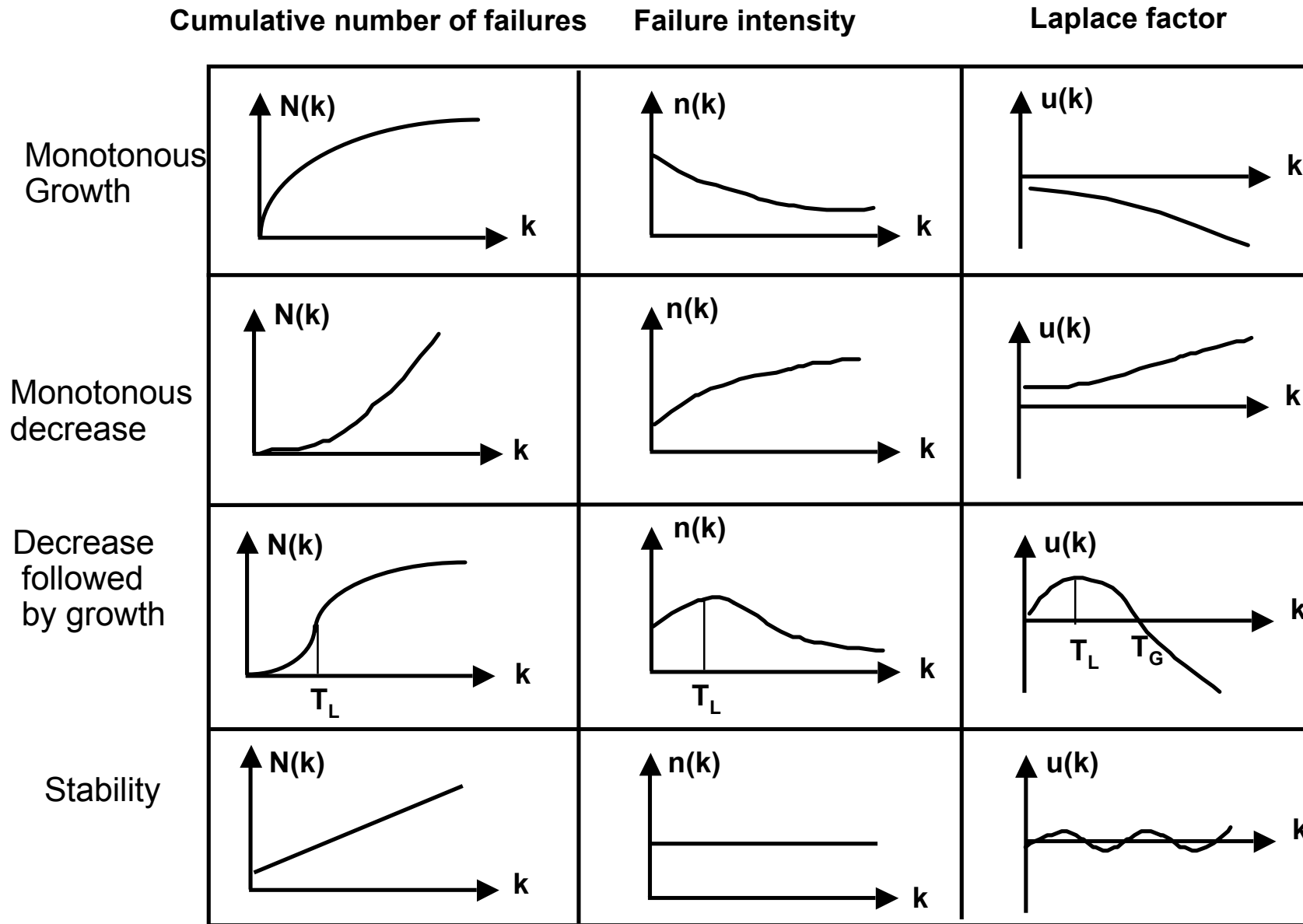
**Cumulative number of failures**



**Laplace factor**



# Link between trend indicators



# How to use trend test results

## ☞ Control of the efficiency of test activities

- Reliability decrease at the beginning of a new activity: OK
- Reliability decrease during a relatively long period of time: Pb ?
- Reliability growth after reliability decrease: OK
- Sudden reliability growth: caution!
- Stable reliability: saturation

☞ New tests

☞ Following phase

☞ End of test

## ☞ Application of reliability models

- Trend in accordance with model assumptions

# Application to RADC data sets

## Rome Air Development Center (USA)

System Id.	# instructions	# programmers	# failures	Type of system
1	21 700	9	136	RT.C
2	27 700	5	54	RT.C
3	23 400	3	38	RT.C
4	33 500	6	54	RT.C
5	2 445 000	7	831	RT.Com.
6	5 700	275	73	RT.C
7 (14C)	*****	8	36	military
8(17)	61 900	110	38	military
9(27)	126 100	8	41	military
10(40)	180 000	8	101	OS
11A(SS1A)	*****	8	112	OS
11B (SS1B)	*****	unknown	375	OS
11C (SS1C)	*****	unknown	277	OS
12 (SS2)	*****	unknown	192	TS
13 (SS3)	*****	unknown	278	WP
14 (SS4)	*****	unknown	196	OS

RT: Real-time  
 C: control  
 Com. : commercial  
 WP: word Processing  
 TS : Time sharing  
 OS: Operating system  
 \*\*\*\*\* : not given

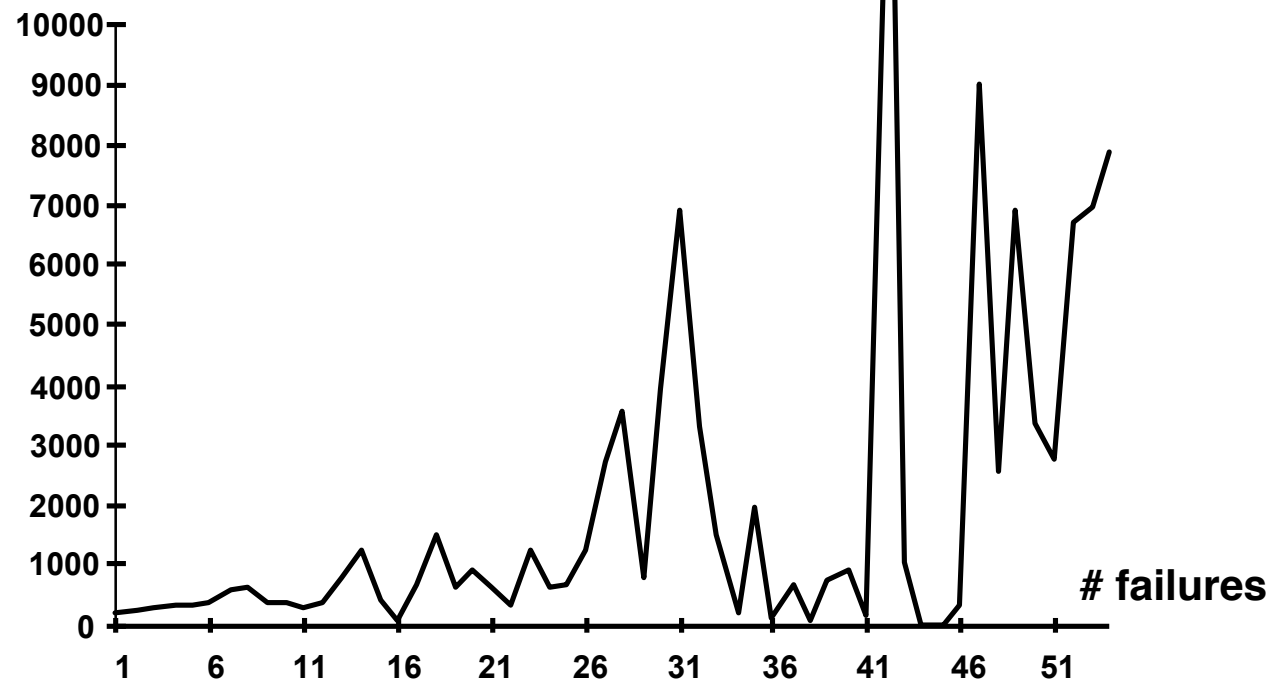
## Laplace factor

System	Laplace factor
1	- 9,10
2	- 5,73
3	- 6,13
4	- 8,59
6	- 3,64
7	- 2,14*
8	- 4,65
9	- 5,16
10	- 9,60
11A	- 1,36*
11B	- 0,73*
11C	- 5,15
12	+ 0,74*
13	- 5,64
14	- 1,78*

\* : stable reliability

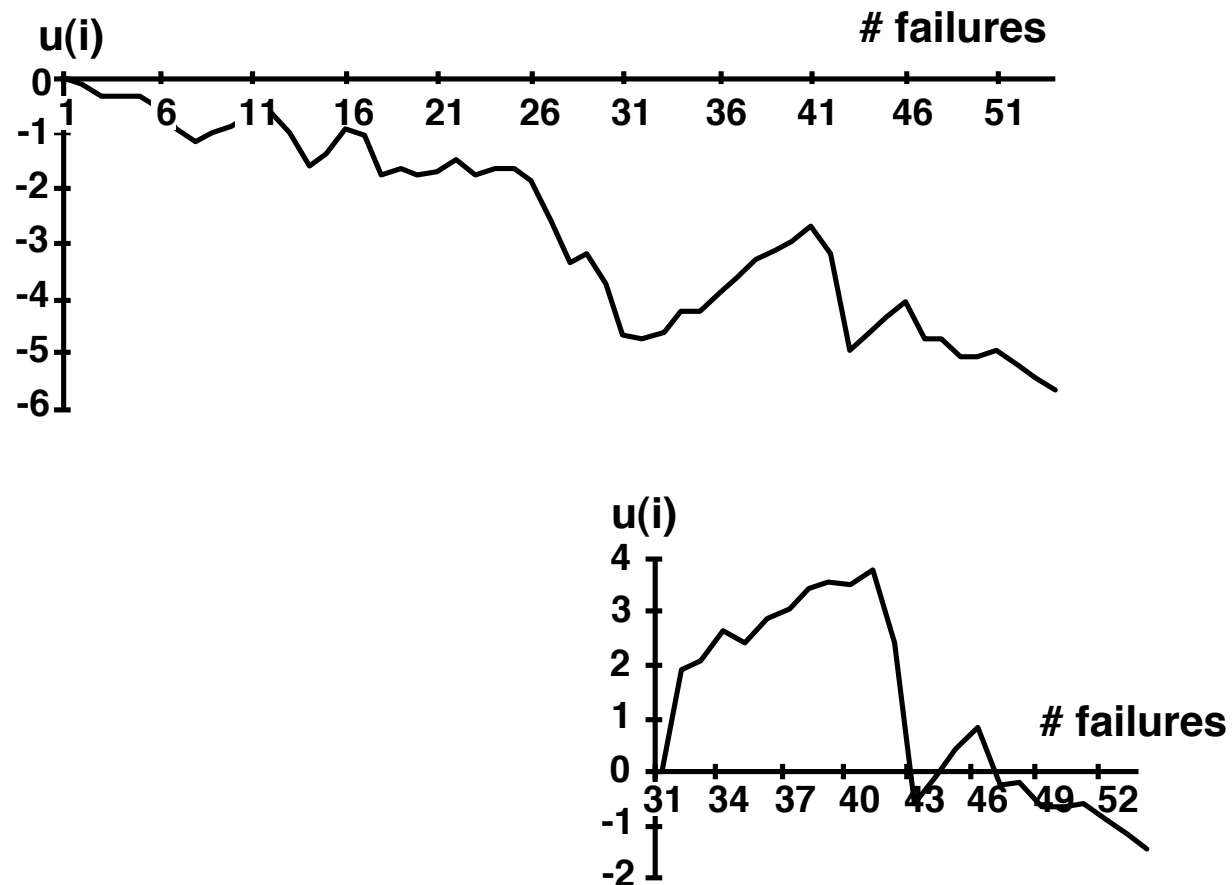
## System 2: times to failures

Time to failures,  $t_i$

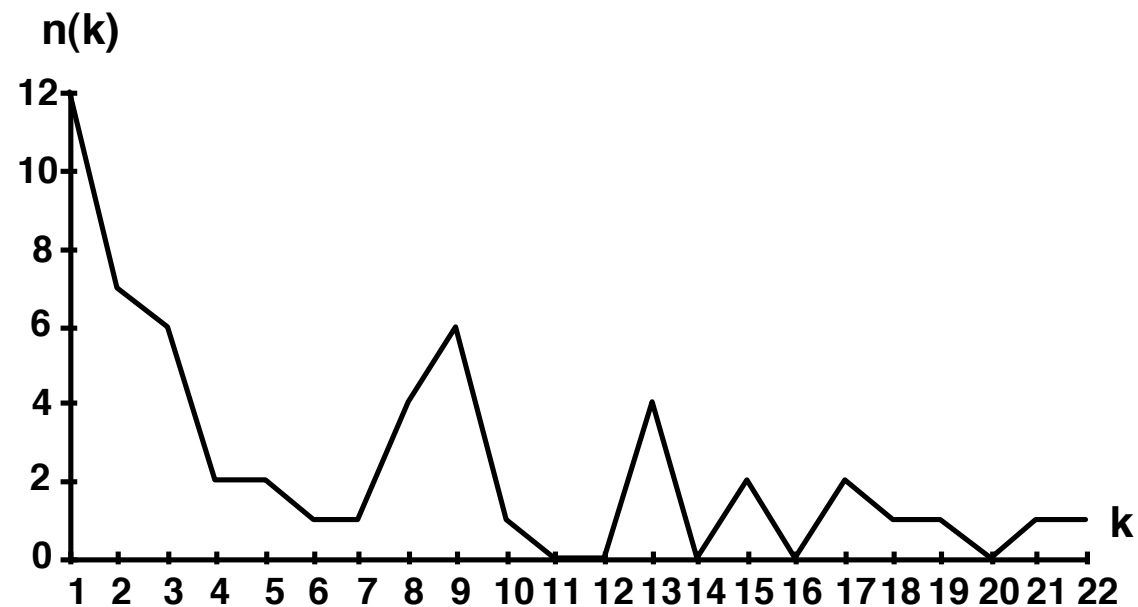


## System 2: Laplace factor

Variable: time to failure



## System 2: failure intensity

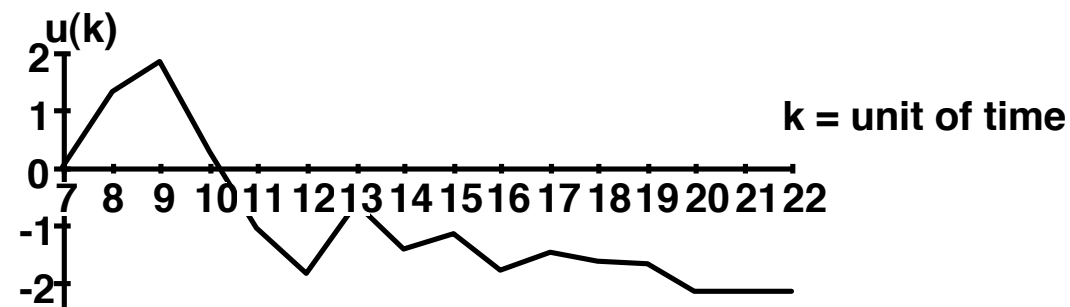
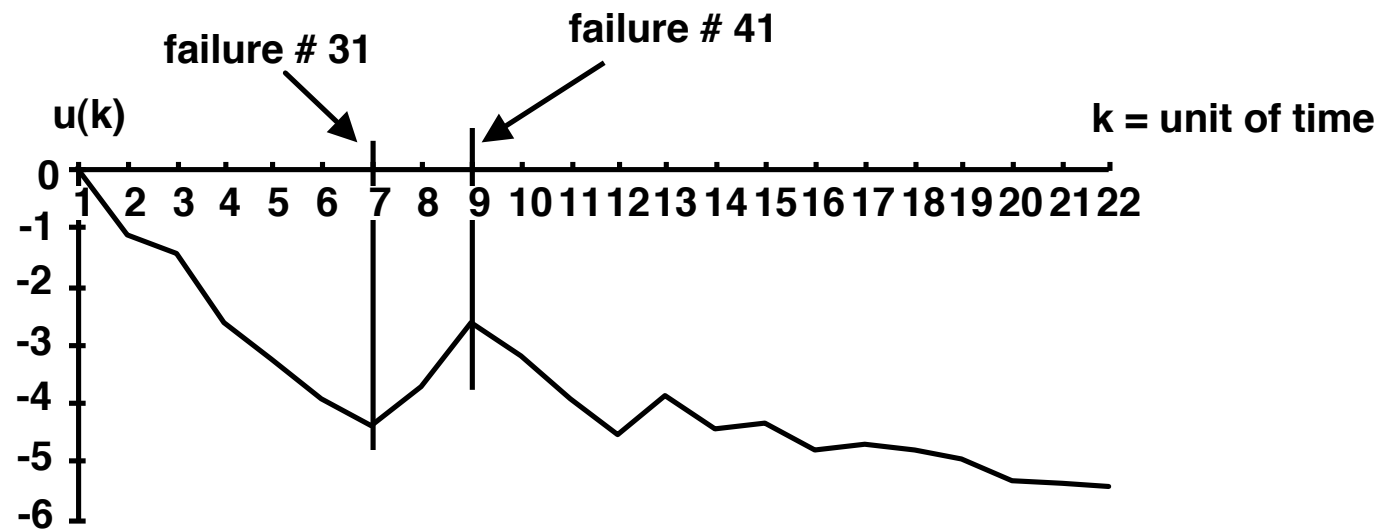


k: unit of times = 5000 seconds of execution time



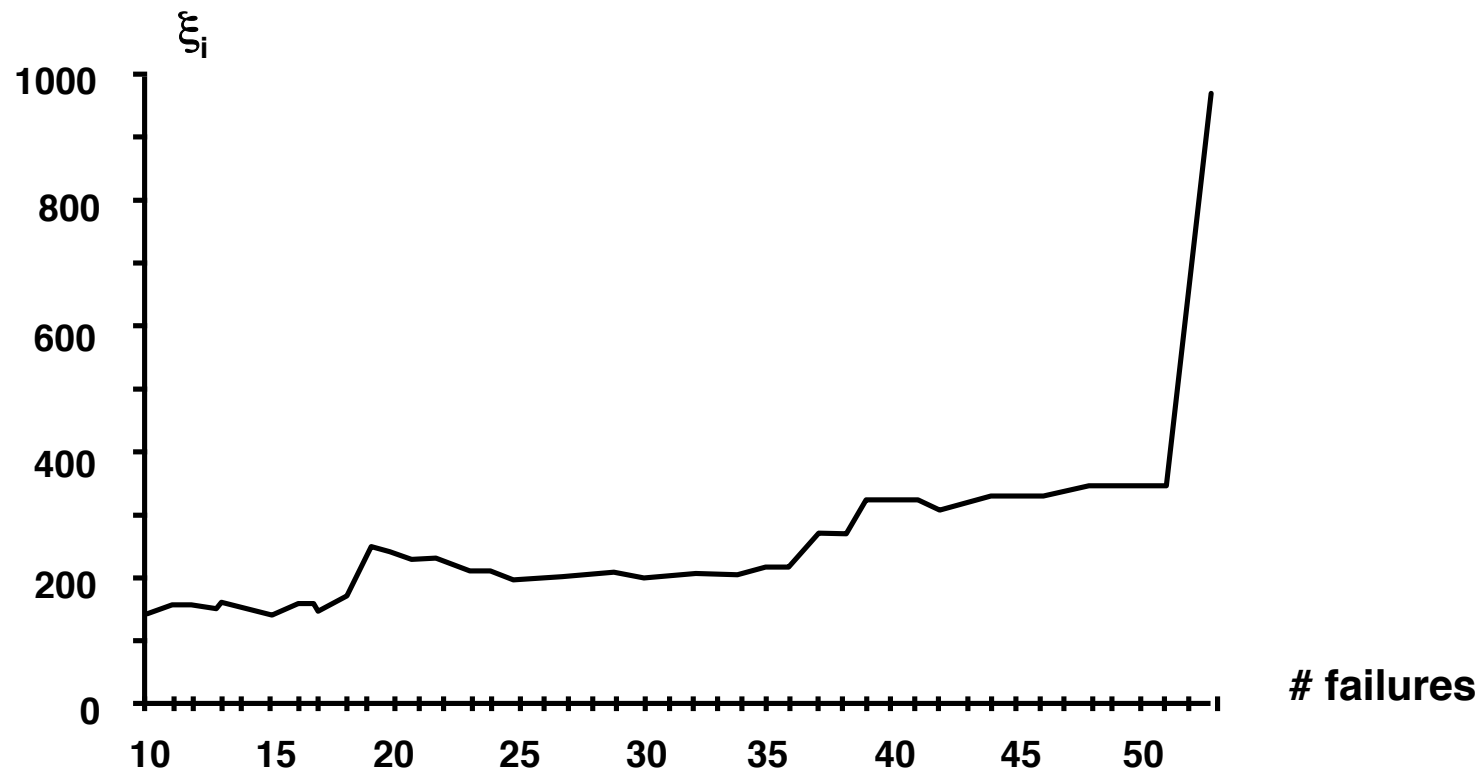
## System 2: Laplace factor

👉 Variable: # failures



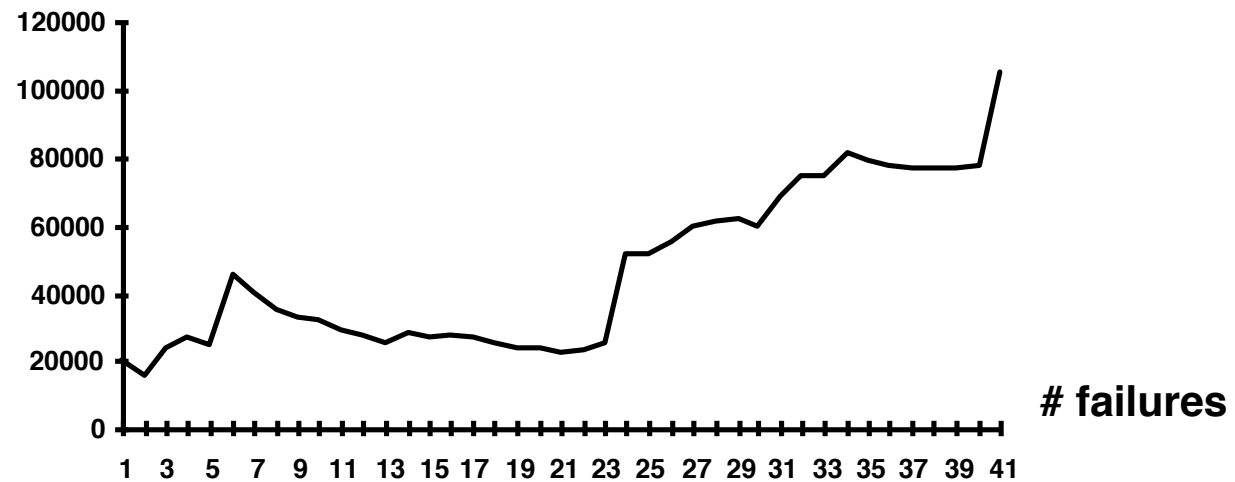
Unit of time = 5000 seconds of execution time

## System 4: arithmetical mean

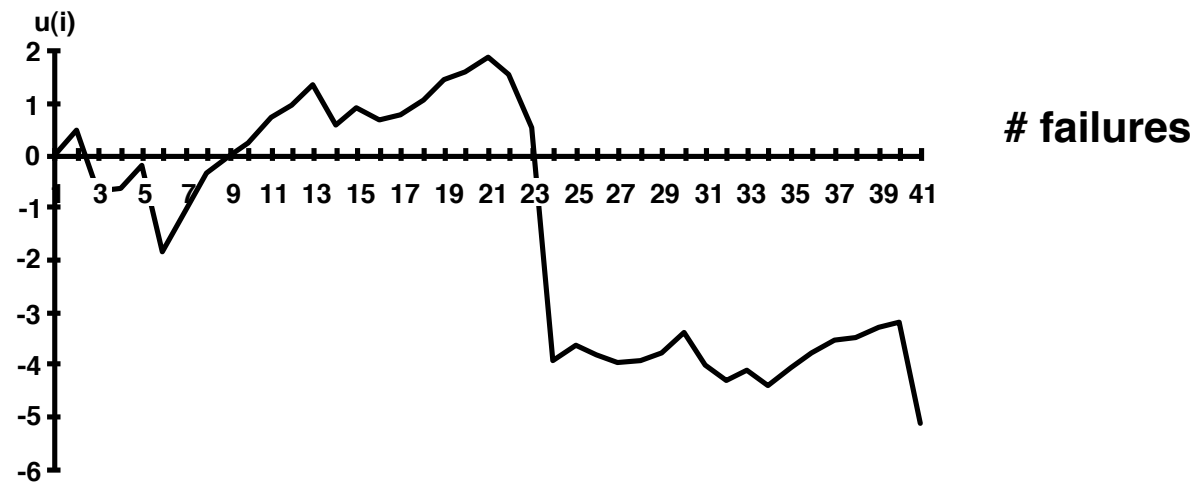


## System 9

Arithmetical  
mean

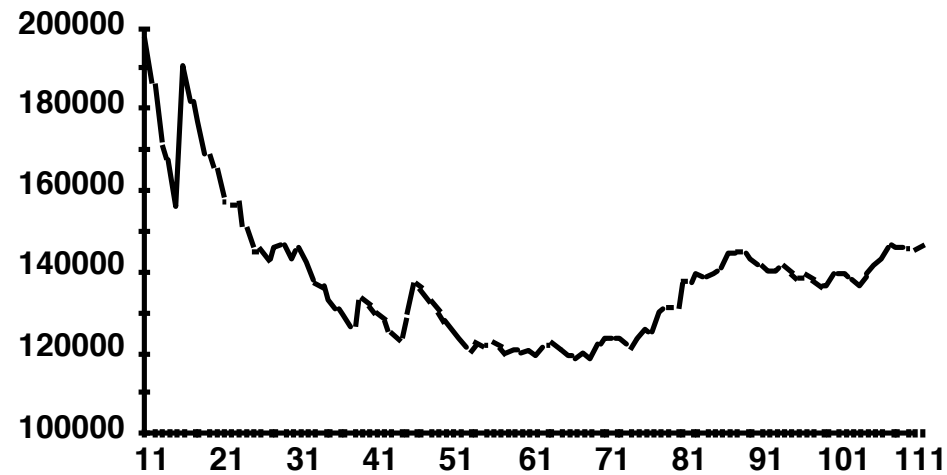


Laplace  
Factor



# System 11A

Arithmetical  
mean



# failures

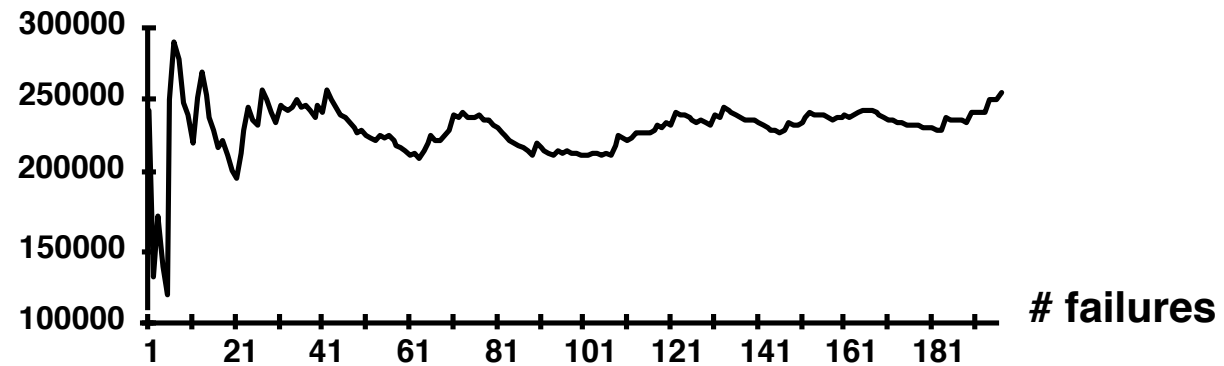
Laplace  
Factor



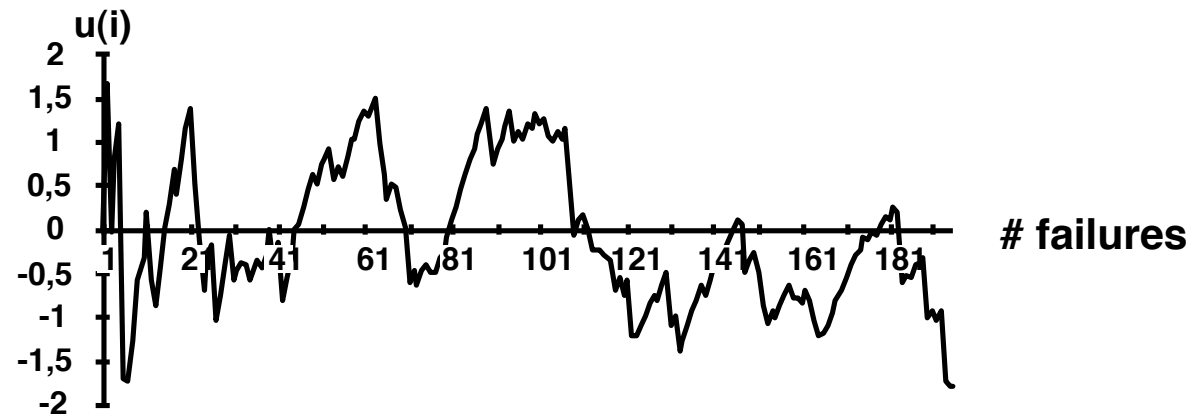
# failures

## System 14

Arithmetical  
mean



Laplace  
factor



# Conclusion

- ☞ Some systems can be modeled by an exponential distribution
  - System for which  $-2 < u < 2$
- ☞ Impact of the operational profile
  - Systems 11 A, B, C are 3 copies of the same program used in different environments
- ☞ Benefits from trend analysis
  - Understanding of the underlying processes
  - Follow up of the development process in real-time, fast feedback
  - Helpful for reliability model application

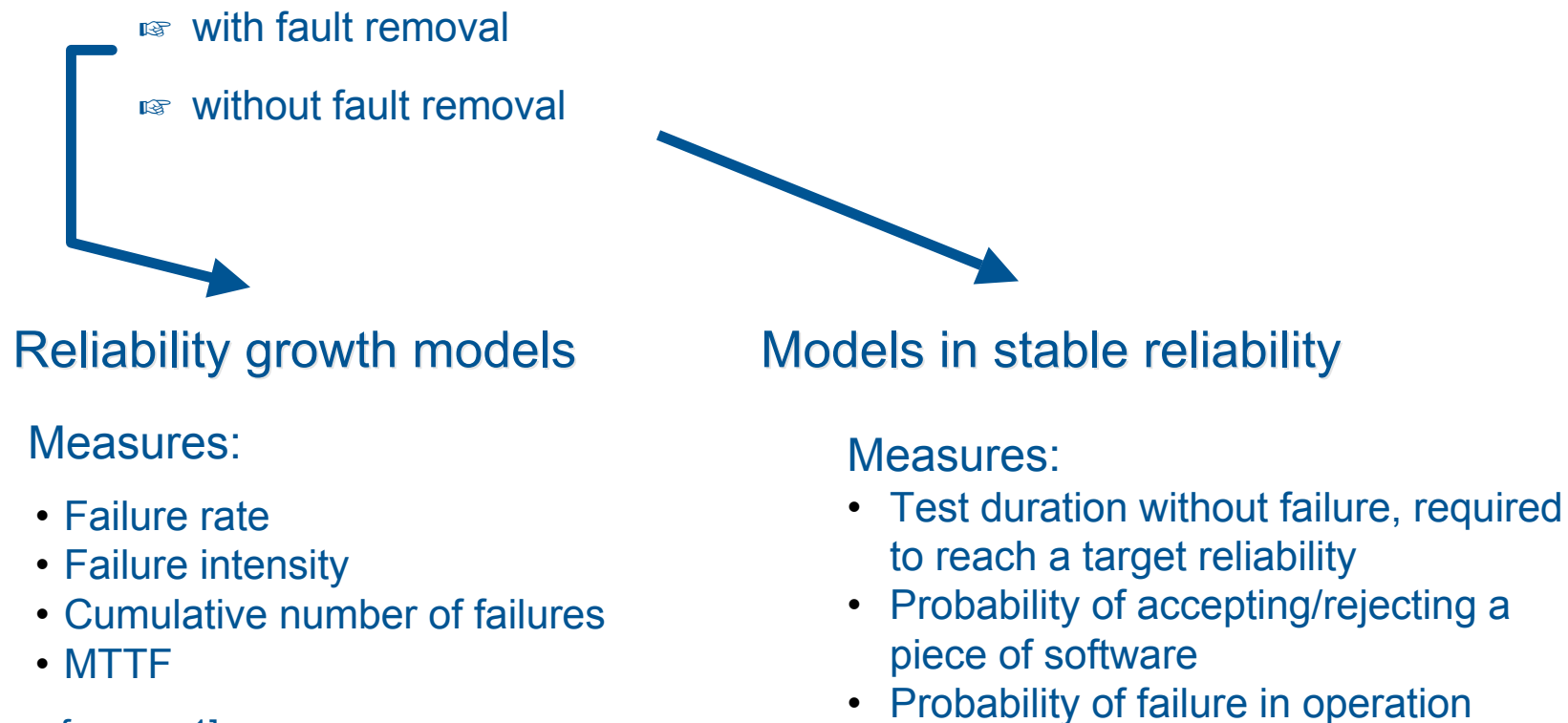
# SOFTWARE RELIABILITY EVALUATION

## 👉 Objectives

- Evaluate measures characterizing the software reliability and its evolution

## 👉 Methods

- evaluation from data collected on the software during testing and / or operation



[See reference 1]

# OUTLINE

## Reliability growth models

- Presentation of some reliability growth models
- Reliability growth models and trend analysis
- Application of reliability growth models
- Tools

## Models in stable reliability

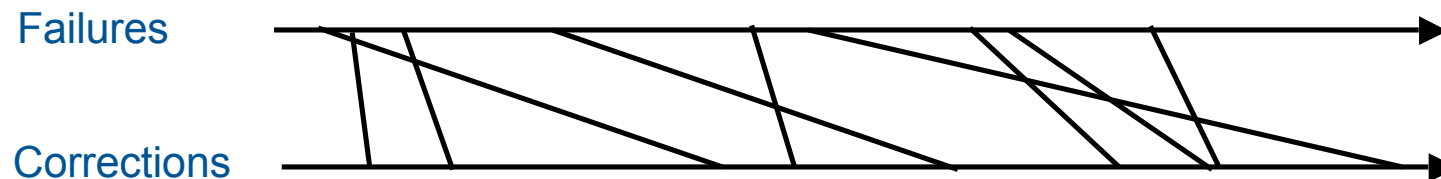
## Other approaches



# RELIABILITY GROWTH MODELS

## Modeling difficulties

- ✎ Corrections + specification changes  $\Rightarrow$  varying behavior  
 $\Rightarrow$  absence of repetitive phenomenon  $\Rightarrow$  absence of statistics
- ✎ Variations in the usage environment
- ✎ No direct relationships between failures and corrections



## Objectives of reliability growth models:

Estimation of dependability measures as resulting from the above variations

$\Rightarrow$  restrictive assumption for some models: correction after each failure

# RELIABILITY GROWTH MODELS

## ☞ Failure rate models

(Failure rate equations & relationship between successive failure rates)

- Deterministic, piecewise Poisson Process models: Jelinski Moranda, Musa
- Stochastic, doubly stochastic process model: Littlewood-Verrall

## ☞ Failure intensity models: succession of failures (based on Non-Homogeneous Poisson Process (NHPP))

- Exponential model (Goel Okumoto)
- Hyperexponential model (Kanoun-Laprie)
- S-Shaped model (Yamada et al)

## ☞ Selection depends on

- Objectives

Development follow-up, evaluation of operational MTTF and residual failure rate

- **Trend displayed by the data set**

# Jelinski Moranda model: assumptions

- ☞ First software reliability model (1972)

- ☞ Assumptions

  - H1 : the total number of faults is finite ( $N_0$ )

  - H2 : No fault introduction while correcting detected faults: each activated fault is corrected before new executions

  - H3 : Faults are independent and their manifestation rate is constant

  - H4 : Inputs are selected randomly and tests are representative of operational profile

  - H5 : All failures are observed

# Jelinski Moranda model: equations

## Parameters

$N_0$  = total number of faults

$\Phi$  = fault manifestation rate

$\lambda(i)$  = failure rate of the  $i$ -th failure

$T_i$  = random variable: time between failures  $i-1$  and  $i$  (observation =  $t_i$ )

## Relations

$$\lambda(i) = \Phi [N_0 - (i - 1)] = di / dt \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N_0$$

$$\text{Prob. } (T_i < t_i) = \Phi (N_0 - i + 1) \cdot \exp \{ -\Phi (N_0 - i + 1) \cdot t_i \}$$

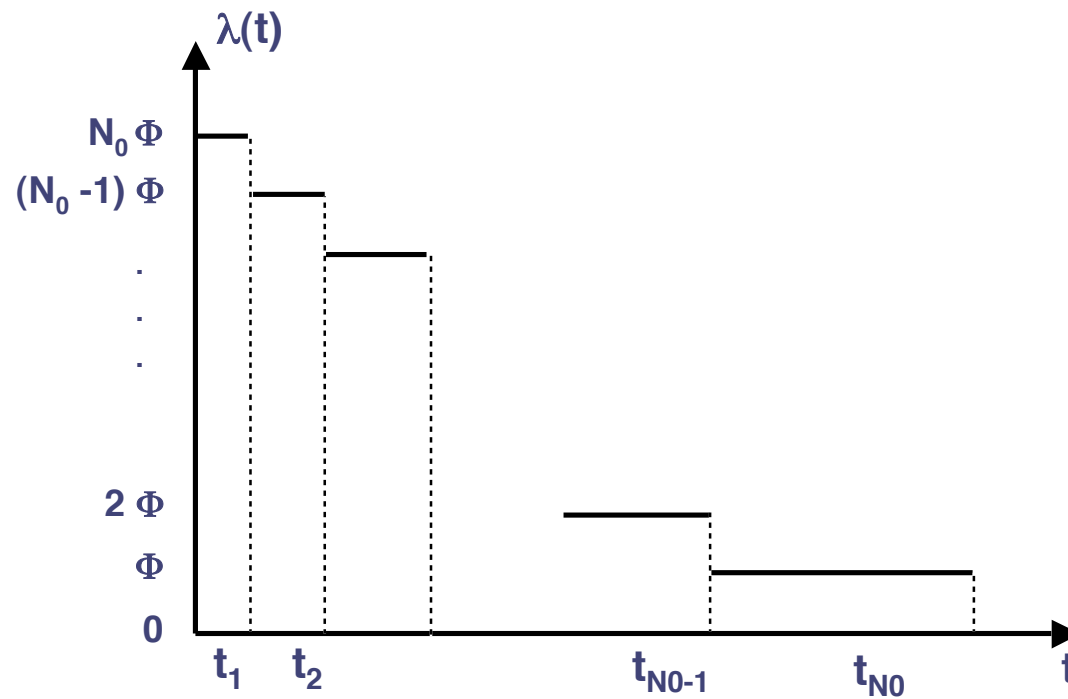
$$\text{MTTF}_i = \frac{1}{\lambda(i)} = \frac{1}{\Phi [N_0 - (i - 1)]}$$

$$N(t) = N_0 [ 1 - \exp (-\Phi t) ] = \text{number of faults detected at } t$$

## Parameters to be estimated: $N_0$ , $\Phi$

## Jelinski-Moranda model: $\lambda(t)$

- the failure rate is constant and tends to 0 when  $t$  tends to  $\infty$



# Musa model

➡ Assumptions similar to the Jelinski-Moranda model

➡ Parameters definition

$M_0$  = number of faults in the software

$N_0$  = number of failures

$B$  = fault reduction factor: number of faults / number of failures  $M_0 = B.N_0$

$C$  = compression factor (execution time in operation / in test)

$\Phi$  = fault manifestation rate

➡ Relations

$$\lambda(i) = B C \Phi (N_0 - i + 1) \quad \text{MTTF}(i) = \frac{1}{B \cdot \Phi \cdot (N_0 - i + 1)}$$

$N(t) = N_0 [ 1 - \exp (-B C \Phi t) ]$  = number of failures observed at  $t$  ( execution time)

➡ Parameters to be estimated:  $N_0$  ,  $\Phi$  ( $B$  product characteristics;  $C$  operational profile)

# Littlewood-Verrall model

☞ Stochastic relationship between the successive failure rates

☞ Distinction

- Input uncertainty:  $\lambda_i$
- Impact of corrections uncertainty:  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_i$  series of random variables

☞ Randomness of inputs

$$f(T_i | \lambda_i) = \lambda_i \exp. (- \lambda_i t)$$

$f$  : probability density function (pdf)

$T_i$  : time to failure  $i$  since failure  $i-1$  (time to failure  $i$ )

☞ Impact of corrections

$$f(\lambda_i | \alpha, \Psi) = \frac{[\Psi(i)]^\alpha \lambda_i^{\alpha-1} \exp. (\Psi(i)) \lambda_i}{\Gamma(\alpha)}$$

$\Psi$  : programmer skill and programming difficulty

# Littlewood-Verrall model

➡ Distribution of  $T_i$

$$f(t_i | \alpha, \Psi) = \int_0^{\infty} f(t_i | \lambda_i) \cdot f(\lambda_i | \alpha, \Psi) d\lambda_i = \frac{\alpha [\Psi(i)]^\alpha}{[t_i + \Psi(i)]^{\alpha+1}} \quad \text{Pareto distribution}$$

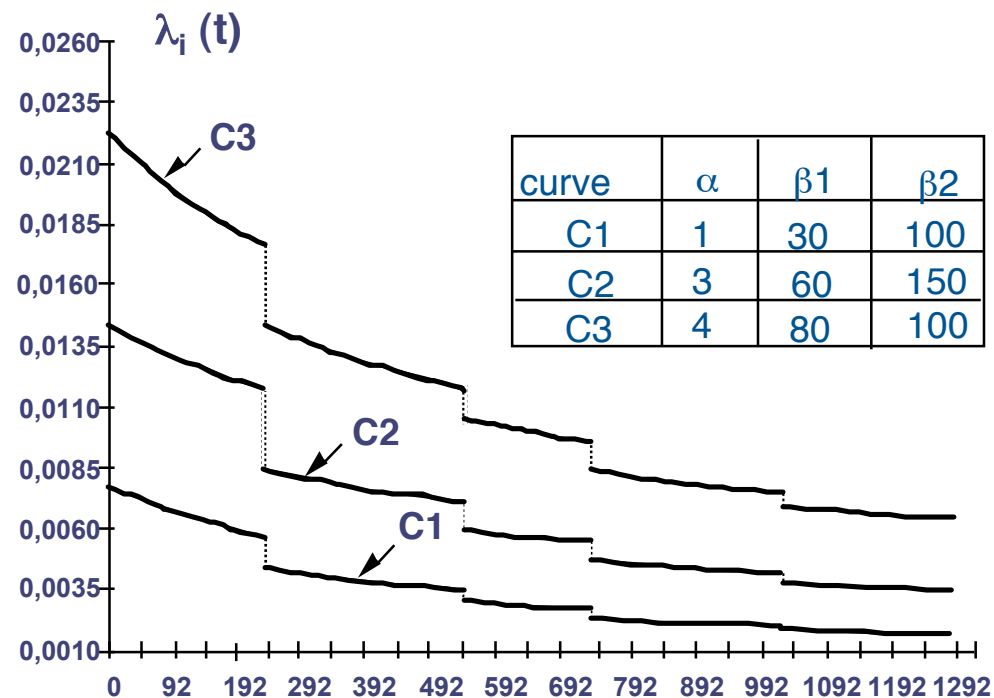
➡ Reliability growth represented by growth of  $\Psi(i)$  :

$$\Psi(i) = \beta_1 + \beta_2 \cdot i$$

$$\lambda_i(t) = \frac{\alpha}{t + \Psi(i)}$$

$$MTTF_i = \frac{\Psi(i)}{\alpha - 1}$$

Parameters:  $\alpha$  ,  $\beta_1$  ,  $\beta_2$





# NHPP models

## ➡ Based on Non-homogeneous Poisson Process (NHPP)

- Definition

➡  $P\{N(t+dt) - N(t) = 1\} = h(t) dt$

➡  $P\{N(t+dt) - N(t) \geq 2\} = o(dt)$

➡  $[N(t_0)], [N(t_1) - N(t_0)], \dots, [N(t_n) - N(t_{n-1})], \quad t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n$

are random variables with independent increments

- Properties

➡ number of events on  $[t_1, t_2]$

$$E[N(t_2) - N(t_1)] = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} h(t) dt = H(t_2) - H(t_1)$$

$$\text{Prob. } \{N(t) = n \mid N(t_0) = n_0\} = \frac{[H(t) - H(t_0)]^{n - n_0}}{(n - n_0)!} \exp \{-[H(t) - H(t_0)]\} \quad n > n_0 \text{ and } t > t_0$$

# Exponential Model (EXP)

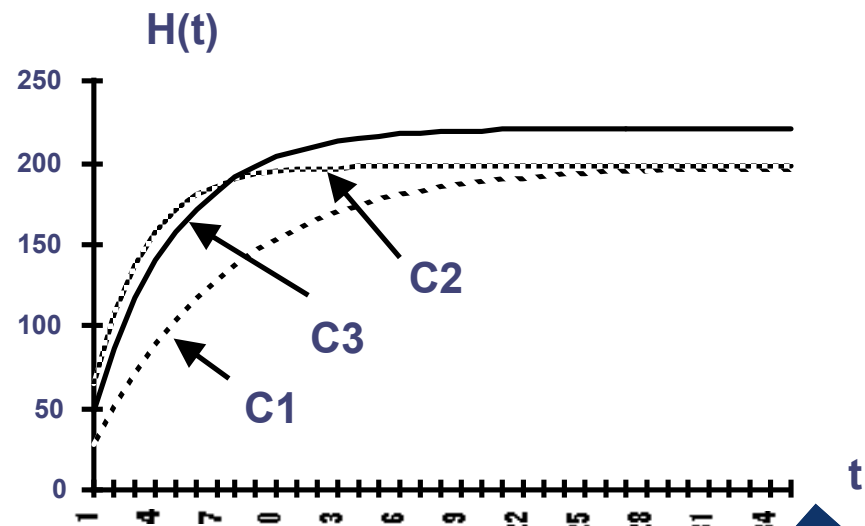
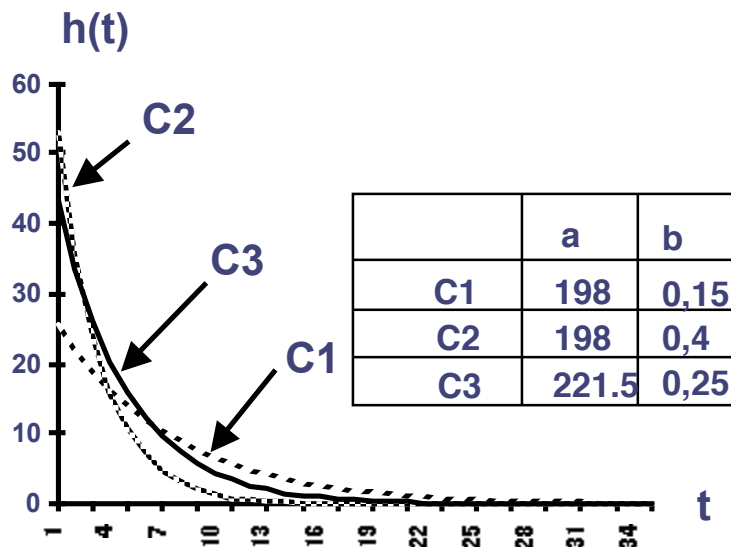
- ✎ Failure intensity

$$h(t) = a b \exp(-bt)$$

parameters to be estimated: a, b

- ✎ Cumulative number of failures

$$H(t) = a [1 - \exp(-bt)]$$



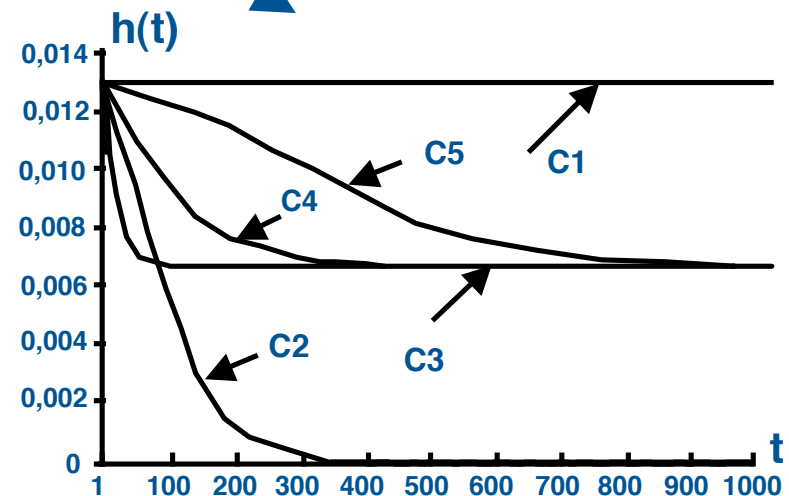
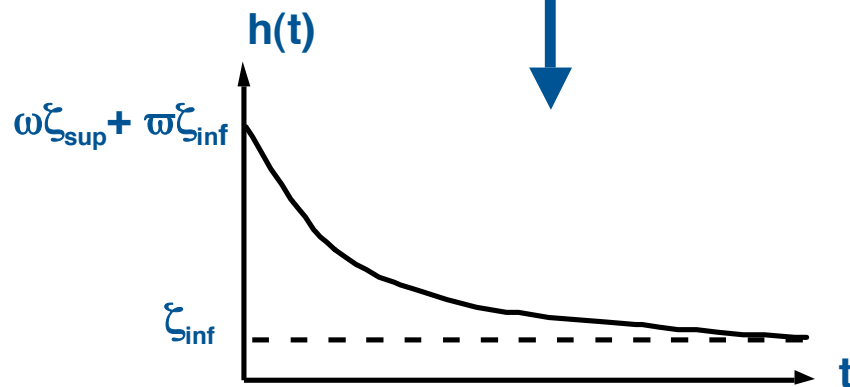
# Hyperexponential Model (HE)

✎ Failure intensity

$$h(t) = \frac{\omega \zeta_{\text{sup}} e^{-\zeta_{\text{sup}} t} + \varpi \zeta_{\text{inf}} e^{-\zeta_{\text{inf}} t}}{\omega e^{-\zeta_{\text{sup}} t} + \varpi e^{-\zeta_{\text{inf}} t}}$$

$$0 \leq \omega \leq 1, \quad \omega + \varpi = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \zeta_{\text{inf}} \leq \zeta_{\text{sup}}$$

variation of parameters



$\zeta_{\text{inf}}$  = residual failure rate

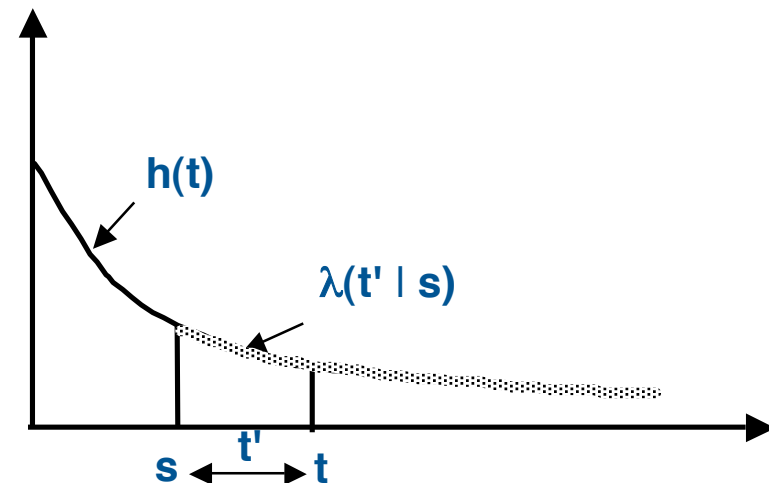
# Hyperexponential Model (HE)

$$\Rightarrow H(t) = E[N(t)] = -\ln [\omega e^{-\zeta_{\sup} t} + \varpi e^{-\zeta_{\inf} t}]$$

$$MTTF_i = \frac{\omega \zeta_{\sup} e^{-\zeta_{\sup} s} + \varpi \zeta_{\inf} e^{-\zeta_{\inf} s}}{\omega e^{-\zeta_{\sup} s} + \varpi e^{-\zeta_{\inf} s}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda(t' | s) = h(s+t)$$

$s$  = time of occurrence of failure  $i$



**Parameters to be estimated:**  $\omega$  ,  $\zeta_{\inf}$  ,  $\zeta_{\sup}$

# S-Shaped model (SS)

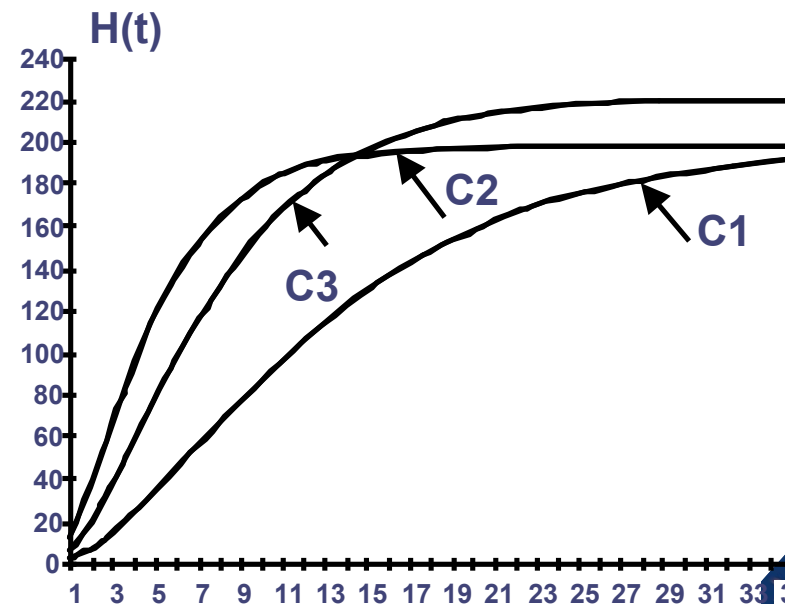
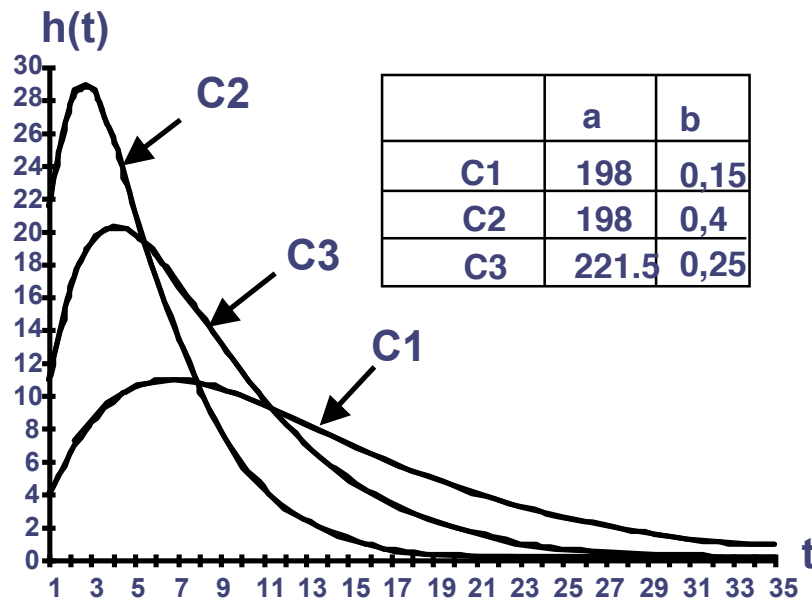
✎ Failure intensity

$$h(t) = a b^2 t \exp(-bt)$$

parameters to be estimated : a, b

✎ Cumulative number of failures

$$H(t) = a \left[ 1 - (1 + b t) \exp(-bt) \right]$$



# Model in practice

- ☞ Pre-processing of failure data

  - Trend analysis  $\Rightarrow$  reliability growth ?

- ☞ Parameter determination from observed failure data

  - Inference procedures

- ☞ Prediction of next failure(s)

  - Evaluation of reliability measures based on observed data

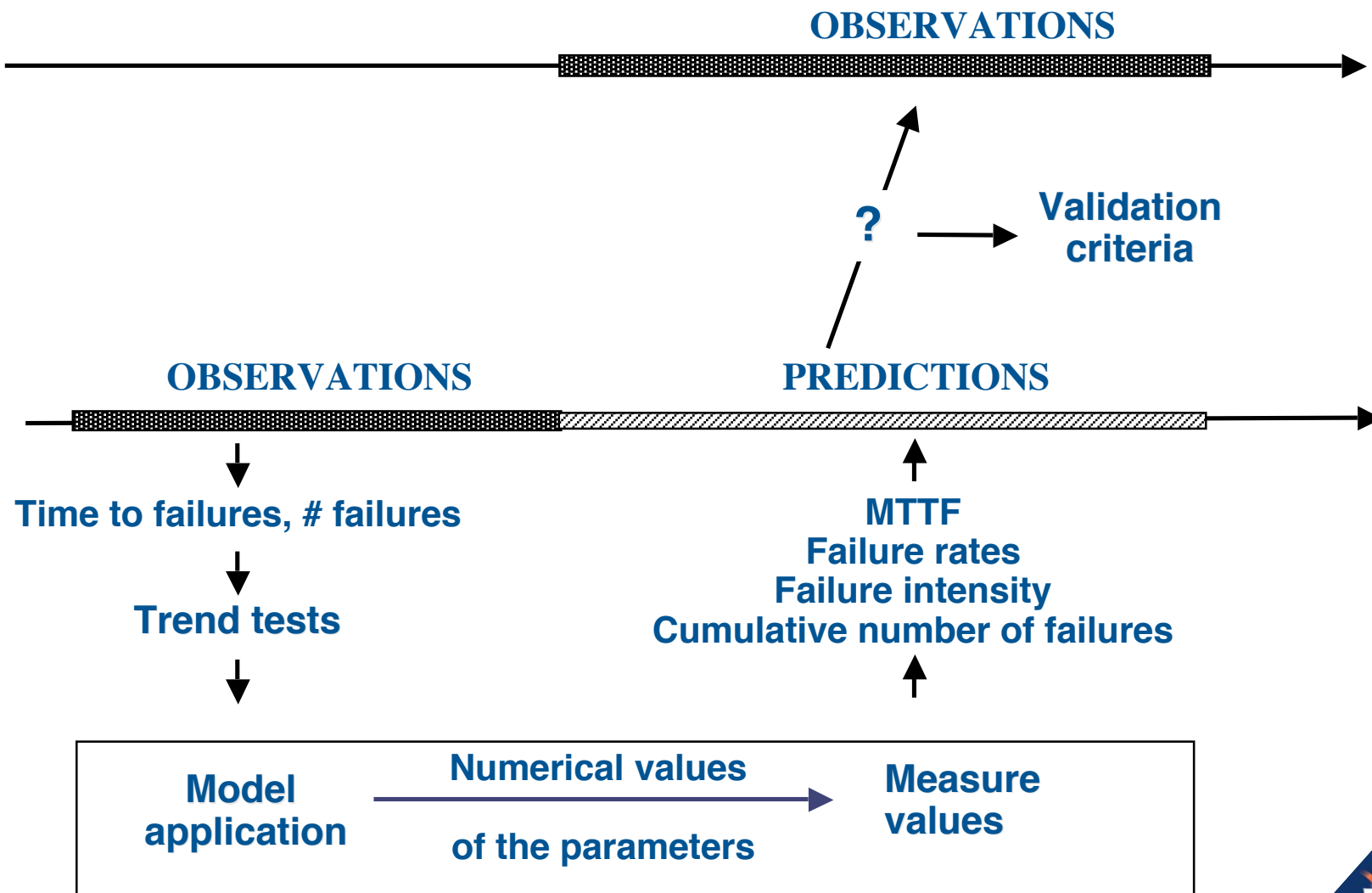
- ☞ Model validation  $\Rightarrow$  confidence in evaluation

  - $\Rightarrow$  Checking agreement between Predictions / Observations

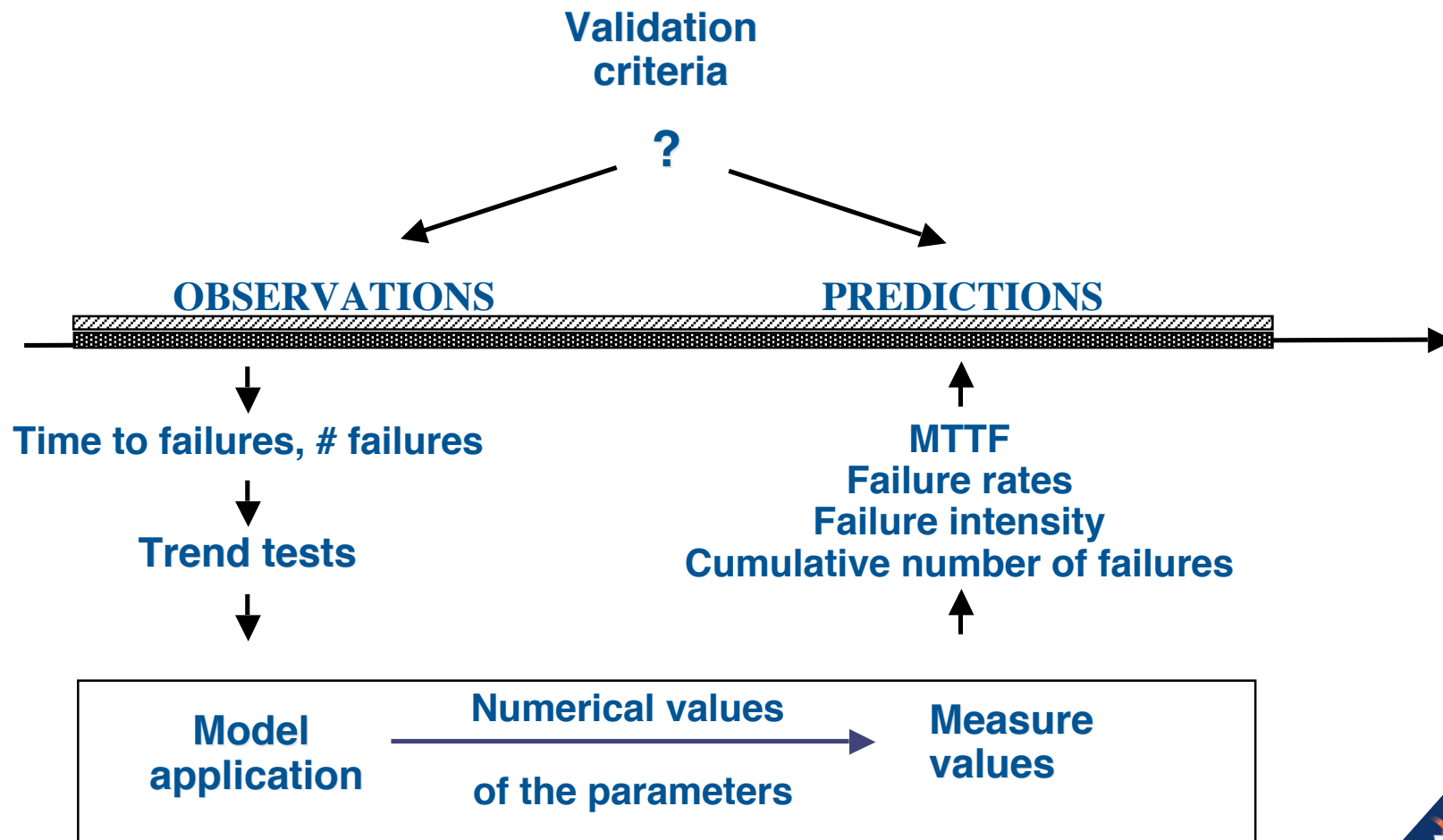
    - ☞ Predictive analysis

    - ☞ Retrodictive analysis

# Model application: predictive analysis



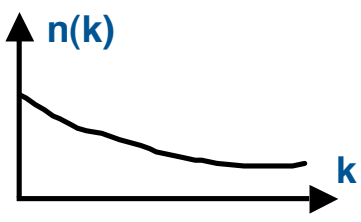
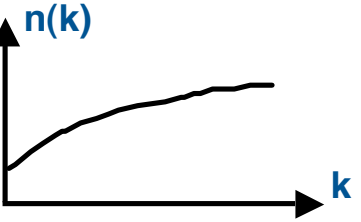
# Model application: retrodictive analysis

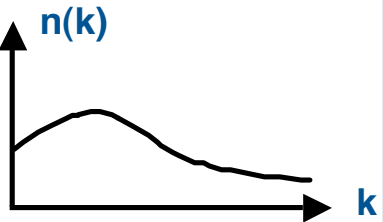
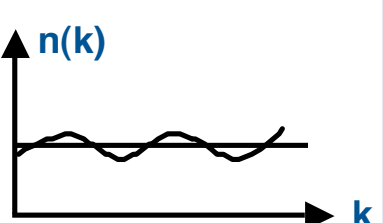




# Trend tests & models

- ➡ **Trend test: identification of periods of reliability growth / decrease**
- ➡ **Reliability growth models are selected depending on the trend displayed by the observed data set**

Failure intensity	Applicable models
	Models with reliability growth
	

Failure intensity	Applicable models
	Models with reliability decrease followed by reliability growth
	Models in stable reliability

# Combined use in real-time of trend tests & models

- ☞ Identify the trend
  - ☞ Apply an appropriate model
  - ☞ Trust model results as long as the usage conditions are not modified
    - Test of the same function(s)
    - No addition of new users or new sites
    - No specification changes
  - ☞ In case of significant variation
    - Apply the trend test including the new data items:
      - ☞ Reliability growth: trust the previous estimations
      - ☞ Reliability decrease: wait for reliability growth
      - ☞ Reliability growth after reliability decrease: new data partitioning
- and application of reliability growth models

# Results Validity ?

Unit tests Static Verification	End of Validation	Operation
<p>☞ Trend analysis</p> <p><del>☞ Reliability growth models</del></p>	<p>☞ Trend analysis +</p> <p>☞ Reliability growth models ... operational profile ? ... enough data ?</p> <p>☞ Limits: <math>10^{-3}/h</math> - <math>10^{-4}/h</math></p>	<p>☞ Trend analysis +</p> <p>☞ Reliability growth models or models in stable reliability <b>High relevance</b></p> <p>Examples: E10-B (Alcatel ESS): 1400 systems, 3 years <math>\lambda = 5 \cdot 10^{-6}/h</math> — <math>\lambda_c = 10^{-7}/h</math></p> <p>ABB Atom Nuclear I&amp;C Appli. 8000 systems, 4 years <math>\lambda : 3 \cdot 10^{-7} /h</math> — <math>\lambda_c = 4 \cdot 10^{-8}/h</math></p>

# Conclusion

## ☞ Method

- Rigorous progressive analysis of the software behavior
- Deep thoughts about the system and the analyzed data
- Better results from reliability growth models

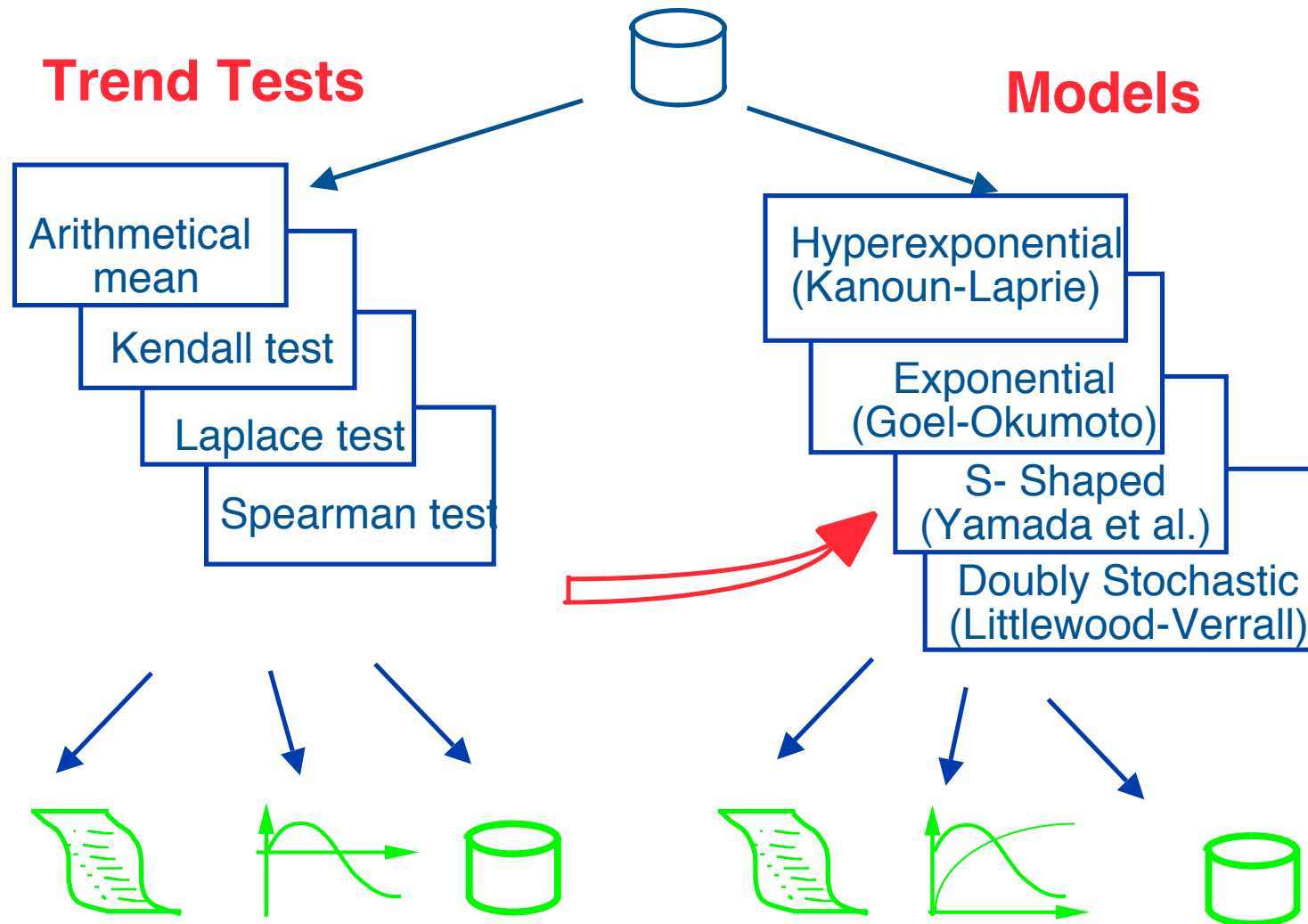
## ☞ Applicability

- General method: applicable to hardware design faults
- Should be integrated to the various phases of the development:
  - ☞ early phases: analyses of data and trend tests
  - ☞ validation and operational life: application of models (in addition)

- ☞ The method has been applied to several real-life systems  
(hardware and software)

## ☞ Needs for tools

## Example of Tool: SoRel (developed at LAAS)



[See reference 6]

## Experience with SoRel

System	Languages	Volume	Observation	Phases	# Systems	# FR and/or CR
E10-B	Assembler	100 k-bytes	3 years	Val. / Op.	1400	58 FR / 136 CR
TROPICO-R 1500	Assembler	300 k-bytes	27 months	Val. / Op.	15	465 FR/CR
TROPICO-R 4096	Assembler	350 k-bytes	32 months	Val. / Op.	42	210 FR/CR
TROPICO-RS	Assembler	420 k-bytes	47 months	Op.	37	212 FR/CR
TROPICO-RA	CHILL	815 KLOC	68 months	Val. / Op.	146	3063 FR/CR
Telecom. Equipt	PLM-86	$5 \cdot 10^5$ inst.	16 months	Val.	4	2150 FR

# MODELS IN STABLE RELIABILITY

- ☞ Apply when no program evolution nor failure resolution is occurring
- ☞ Operational testing (end of validation) — certification
  - or when the system is in operation without fault correction
- ☞ Residual faults: expected to induce a reduced failure rate
- ☞ Two types of inferences
  - Experiments without failures:
    - Hypothesis testing** evaluate a lower bound on the software reliability or an upper bound on the failure probability (for a given confidence level)
  - Experiments with only a few failures observed (all known faults are not fixed)
    - 1) **Hypothesis testing** (assessment of lower bounds) or
    - 2) Evaluation of an unbiased estimator of the failure probability per execution (the first approach is better when the number of failures is very low)

# Reliability evaluation when testing reveals no failure

## ☞ Hypothesis testing when testing reveals no failure

Prob {accepting " $p \leq p_0$ " while it is false }  $\leq \alpha$

$p$  = actual probability of failure and  $p_0$  required probability of failure (objectives)

$\alpha$  = risk error and  $(1 - \alpha)$  = confidence level

## ☞ Amount of execution / time required

$N$  = number of executions without failure,

$T$  = test duration without failure

• Discrete time: 
$$N \geq \frac{\ln(\alpha)}{\ln(1-p_0)} \quad (\text{results from } (1-p)^N < \alpha)$$

• Continuous time: 
$$T \geq - \frac{\ln(\alpha)}{\lambda_0}$$



## Measure:

Test duration without failure, required to reach a target reliability objective

**Discrete time:** Number of program executions without failure

		Risk: $\alpha$			
		$10^{-1}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-4}$
Target failure probability $p_0$	$10^{-1}$	23	46	69	92
	$10^{-2}$	230	461	691	921
	$10^{-3}$	2303	4605	6903	9210
	$10^{-4}$	23026	46052	69078	92103
	$10^{-5}$	230259	460517	690776	921034
	$10^{-6}$	2302585	4605170	6907755	9210340

## Measure:

Test duration without failure, required to reach a target reliability objective

**Continuous time:** Testing times for some values of  $\lambda_0$  and  $\alpha$

		Risk $\alpha$				Time unit
		$10^{-1}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-4}$	
Target failure rate $\lambda_0$	$10^{-1}$	1	2	3	4	Days
	$10^{-2}$	10	20	1	1.3	Months
	$10^{-3}$	3.2	6.4	9.6	1	Years
	$10^{-4}$	2.6	5.3	7.9	10.5	
	$10^{-5}$	26.2	52.3	78.9	105.1	
	$10^{-6}$	262.8	525.7	788.6	1051.4	

## Other example: stable reliability in operation

### ☞ Problem

- The software system is in operation, some failures have been observed, their consequences are acceptable, even if the faults have been identified
- Modifications are not performed or, only a few modifications are introduced without perception of any reliability growth / decrease

### ☞ Aim

Evaluate the operational failure rate

### ☞ Method

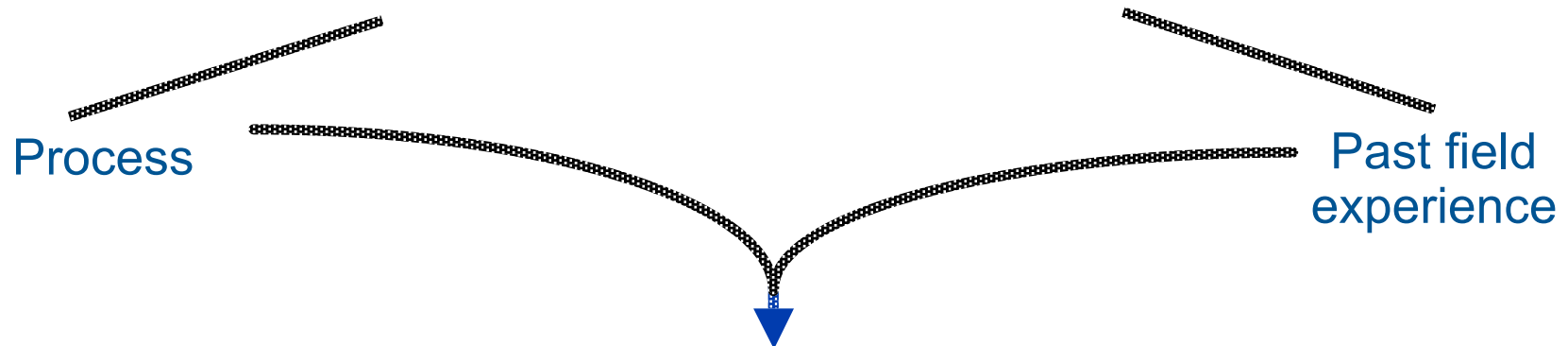
Constant failure rate, Homogeneous Poisson Process  $\Rightarrow$  Markov process

Average observed MTTF, associated confidence level

Usually good results

# Product-in-a-process approach

Supplement current approaches to software reliability evaluation with information



## Product-in-a-process assessment

Validation of a product = validation of (n+1) th product  
with information about: ITSELF + PREVIOUS PRODUCTS

**Framework:** Bayesian probabilities

$\theta$ : conditional probability of failure upon execution / **failure rate**

Prior and posterior distributions: conjugate distributions

Beta distribution / **Gamma distribution**

[See reference 4]

$$\theta = k_1 \theta_c + k_2 \theta_p \quad k_1 + k_2 = 1$$

$\theta$  point Bayesian estimate

$\theta_c$  conventional estimate (validation of the product in isolation)

$\theta_p$  prior estimate (field experience of previous products)

☞ Field produce much more data than validation of new software

$k_2 > k_1 \Rightarrow$  prior estimate dominates conventional estimate

Example:

Satellite control system

$\theta_c = 11.6 \cdot 10^{-3}/h$  (6 months)

$\theta_p = 2.8 \cdot 10^{-3}/h$  (21 months)

$k_1 = 0.2$  ;  $k_2 = 0.8$

$\Rightarrow \theta_p = 4.7 \cdot 10^{-3}/h$

$\Rightarrow$  observed (17 months):  $3.9 \cdot 10^{-3}/h$

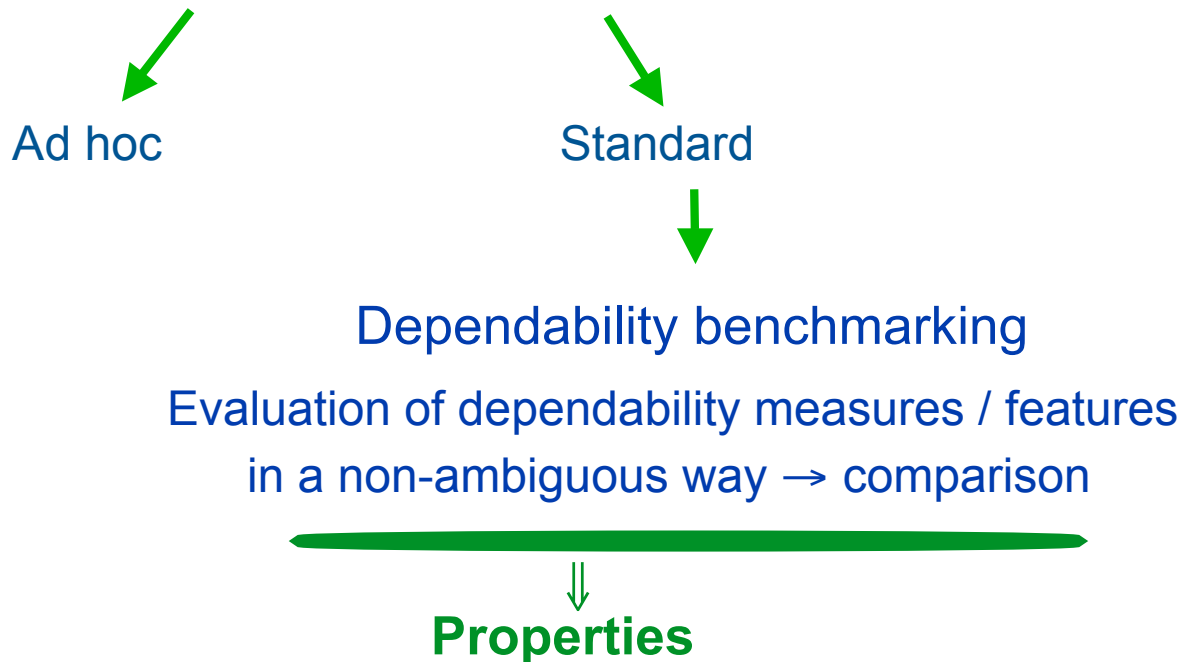
# Conclusion

- ☞ Software systems under development and in operation
- ☞ With fault removal  $\Rightarrow$  Reliability growth models
  - For several reasons reliability decrease  
(new specifications, environment change, new usage profile, etc.)
  - Identify the trend before model application
  - Good results under certain conditions, for short term objectives
  - Long term objectives ? other new approaches (product-in-a-process approach)
- ☞ Without fault removal  $\Rightarrow$  stable reliability
  - Some of the work related to statistical testing could be adapted to operation
  - Two situations: with a few failures or without failures
  - Limitations due to prohibitive test time needed to achieve high reliability objectives
  - Interesting when several systems are under use (example of avionics systems)
  - Test acceleration methods

# Off-the shelf software components

## Dependability benchmarking

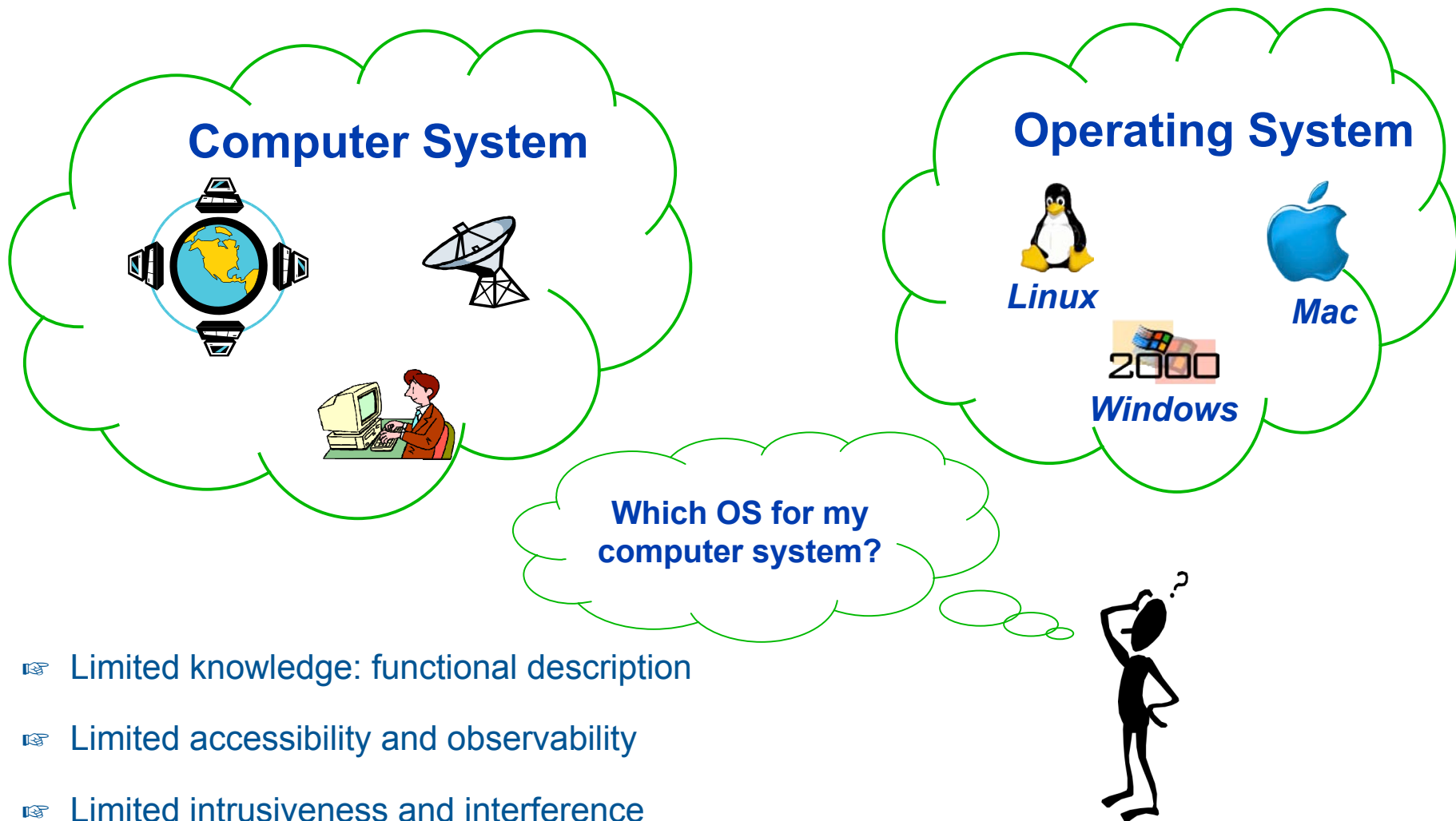
- ❏ No information available from component development
- ❏ Evaluation based on controlled experimentation



**Reproducibility, repeatability, portability, representativeness, acceptable cost**

[See reference 12]

## Context: User point of view

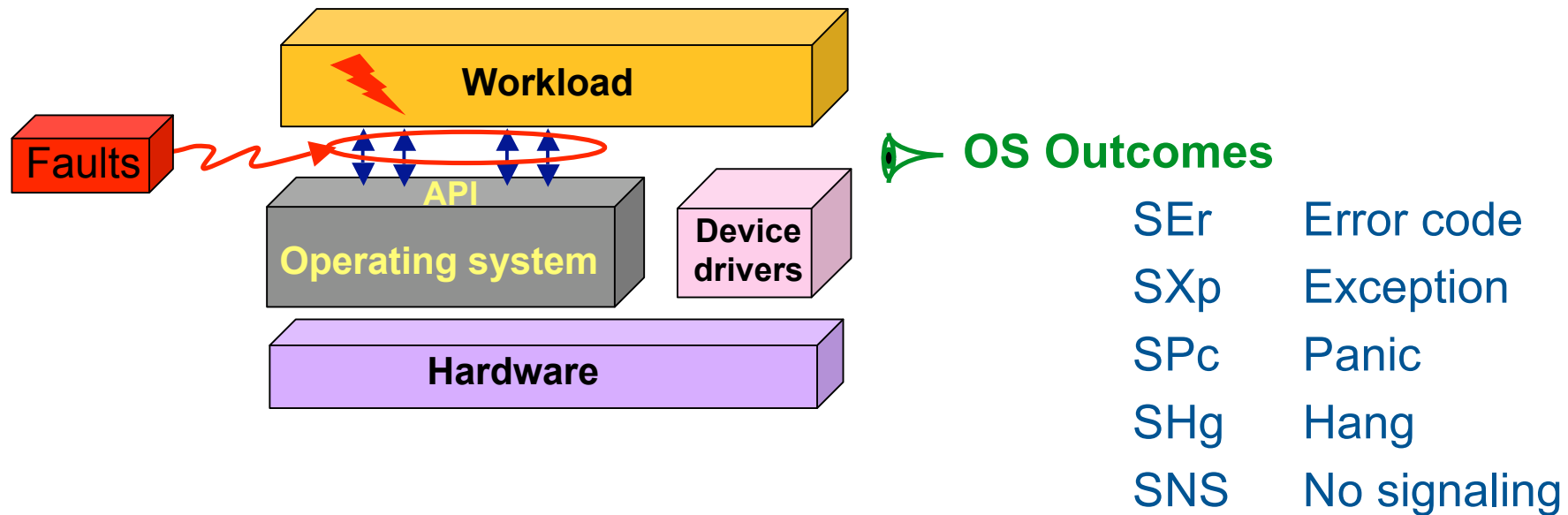


- ☞ Limited knowledge: functional description
- ☞ Limited accessibility and observability
- ☞ Limited intrusiveness and interference

⇒ **Black-box approach** ⇒ **robustness benchmark**



# Operating System Benchmarking and Associated Measures



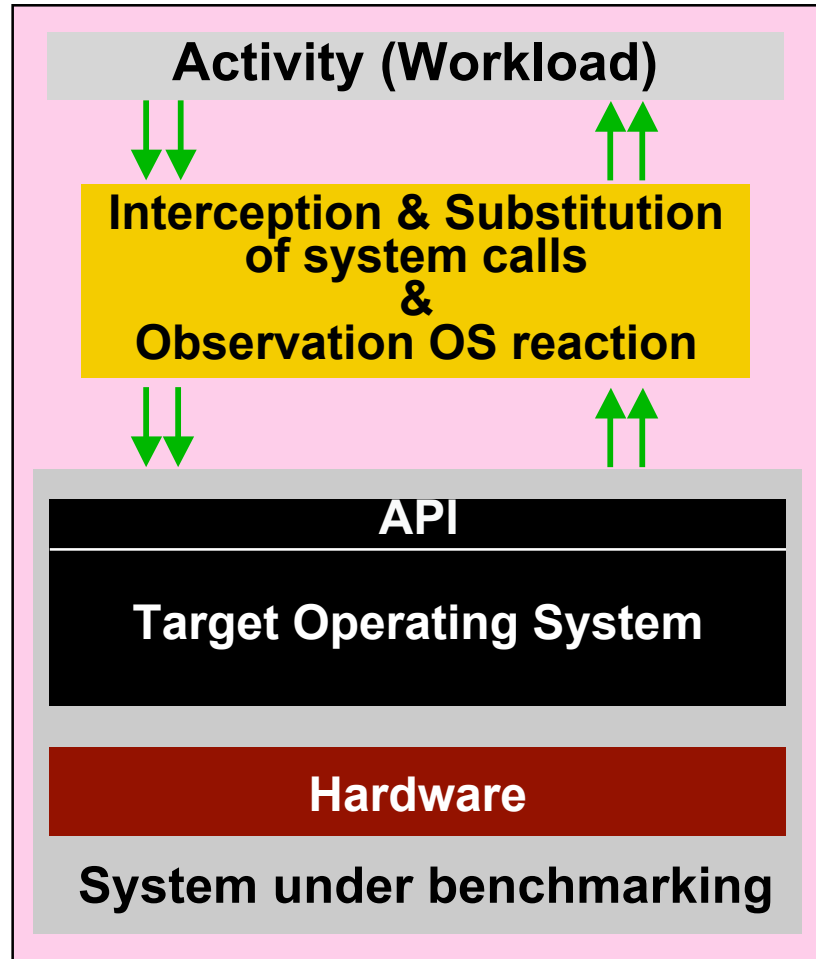
Faults = corrupted parameters of system calls

## Measures

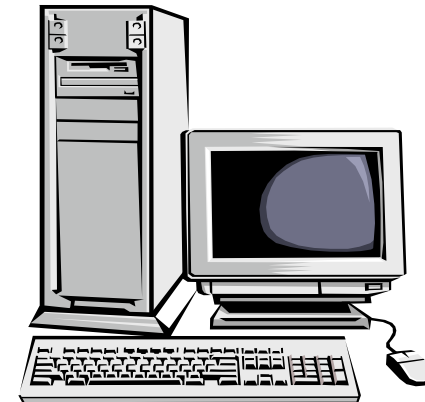
- POS: OS Robustness [%SER %SXP %SPc %SHg %SNS] )
- Texec: OS reaction time in the presence of faults
- Tres: OS Restart time after fault insertion

# Experimental setup

## Host Machine

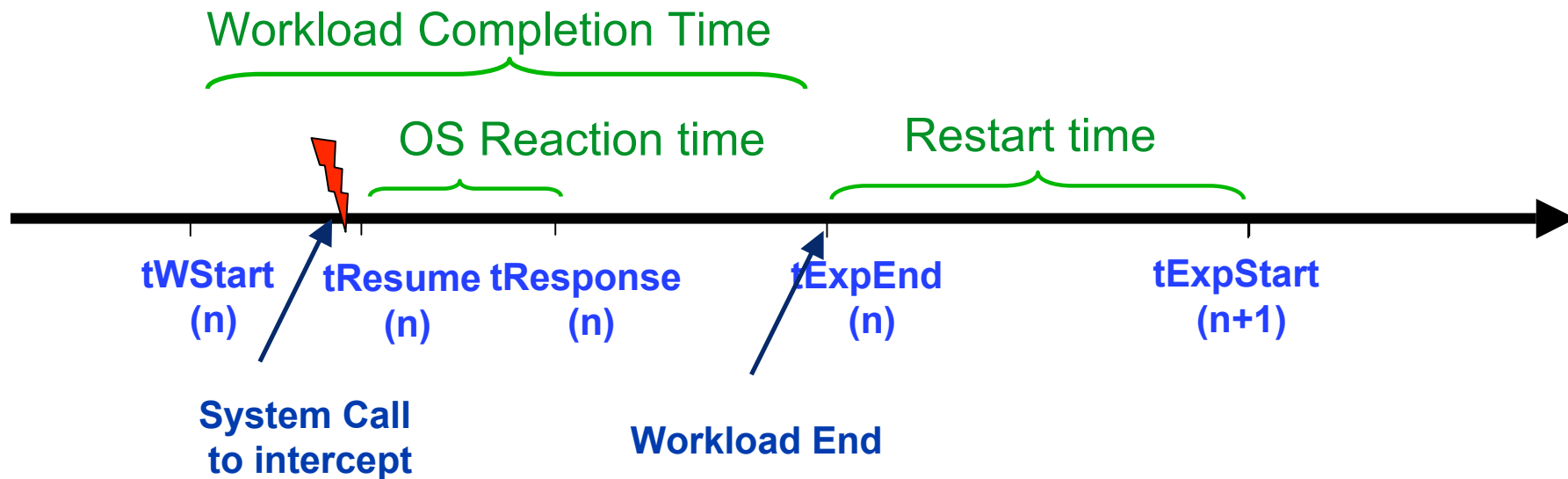


## Control Machine



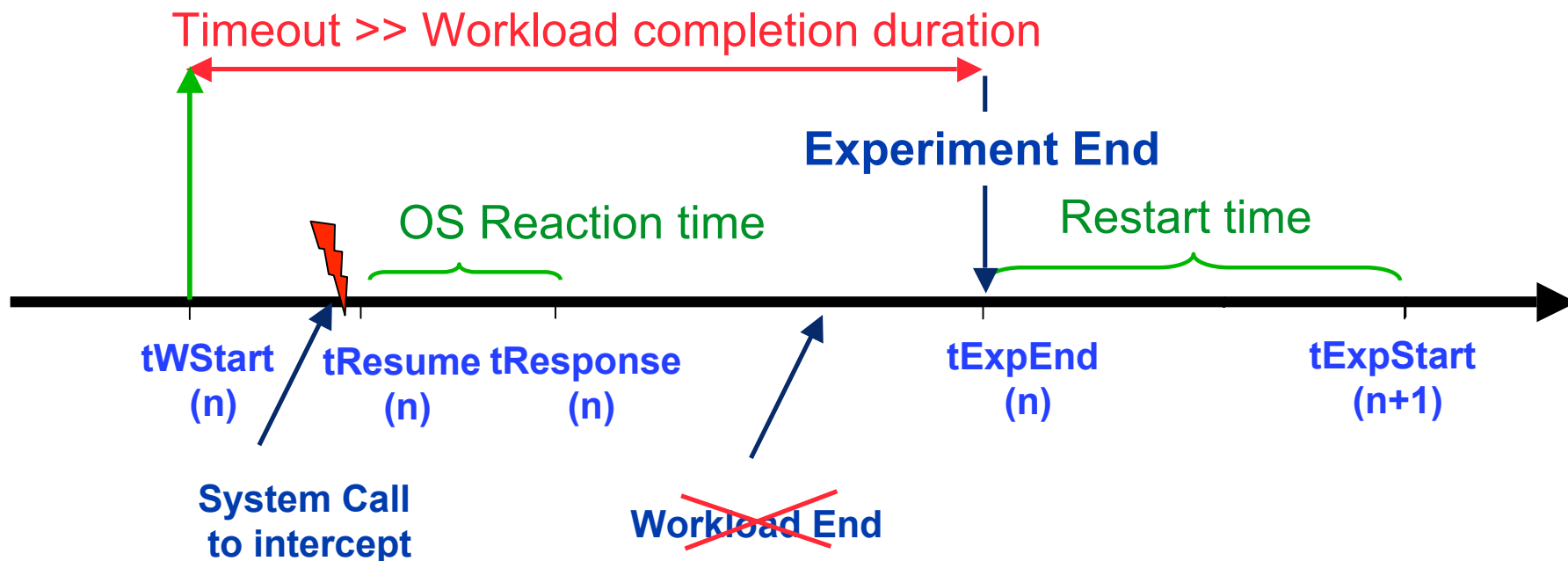
# Measurements

## Experiments with Workload completion



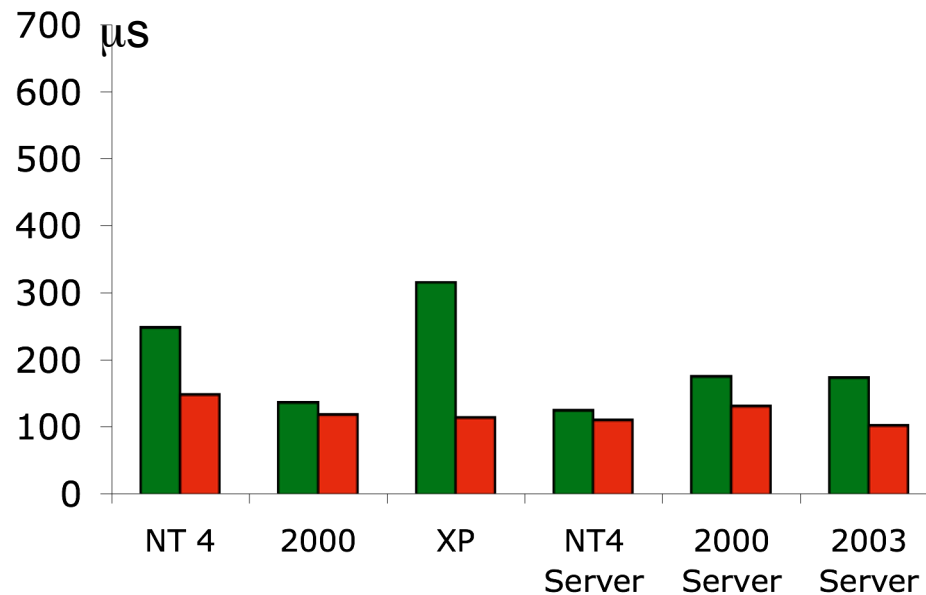
# Measurements

## Experiments with **out** Workload completion

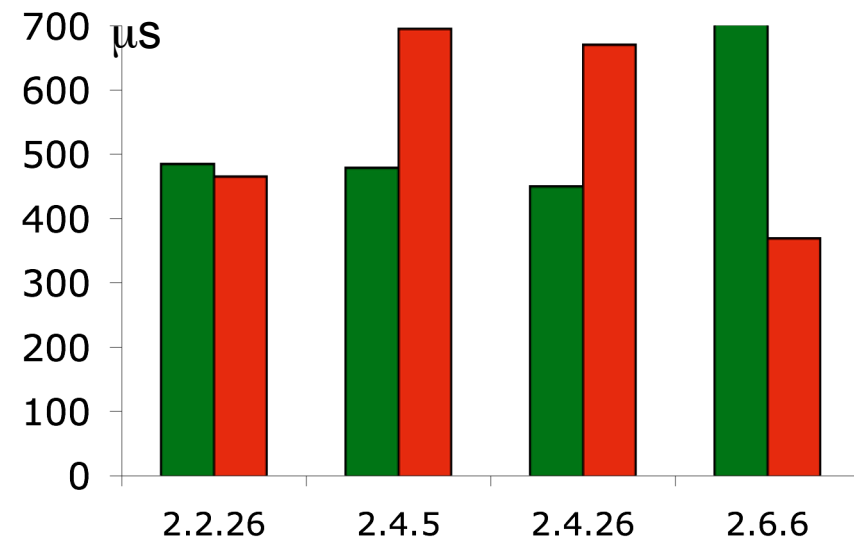


## OS reaction time (Workload = PostMark)

### Windows



### Linux

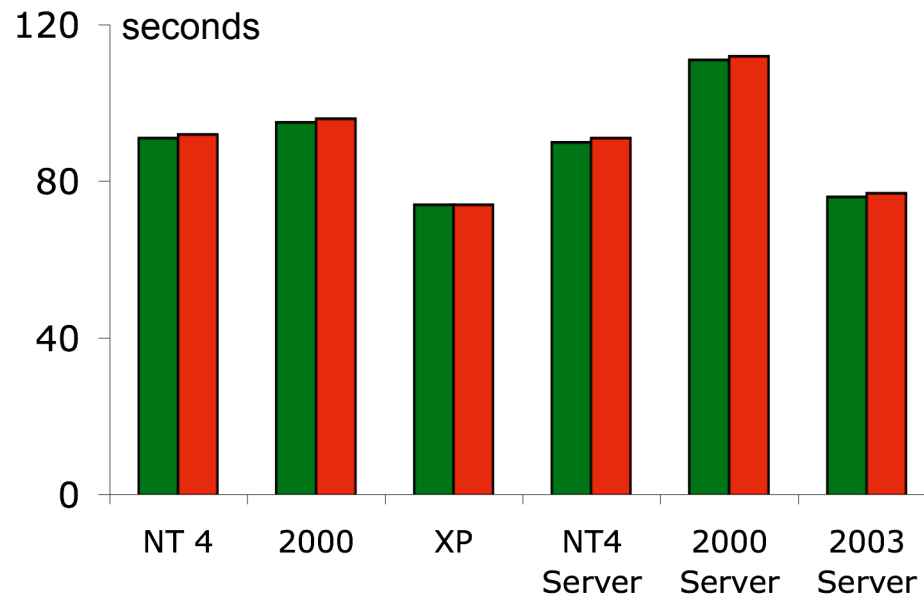


■ In the presence of faults

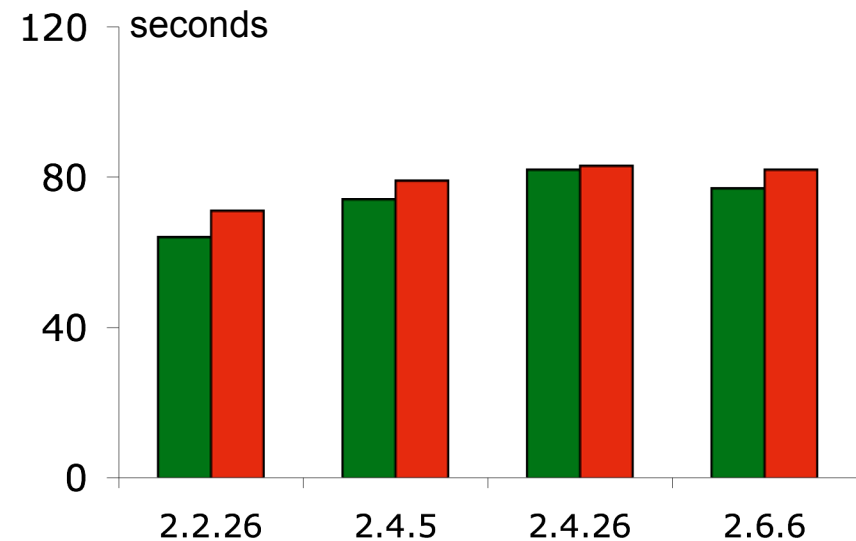
■ Without parameter corruption

# OS Restart time

## Windows



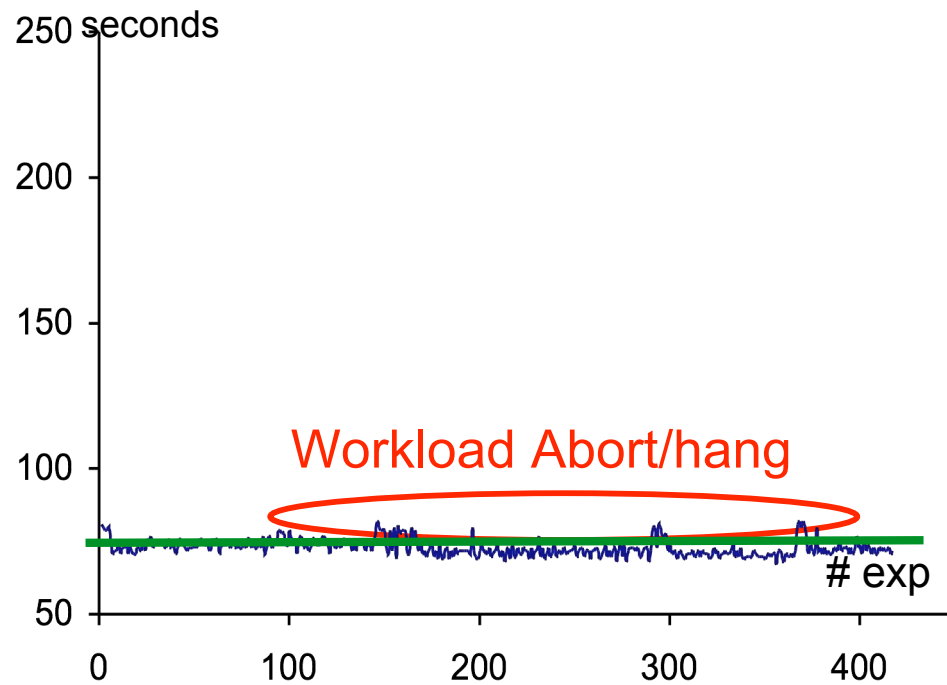
## Linux



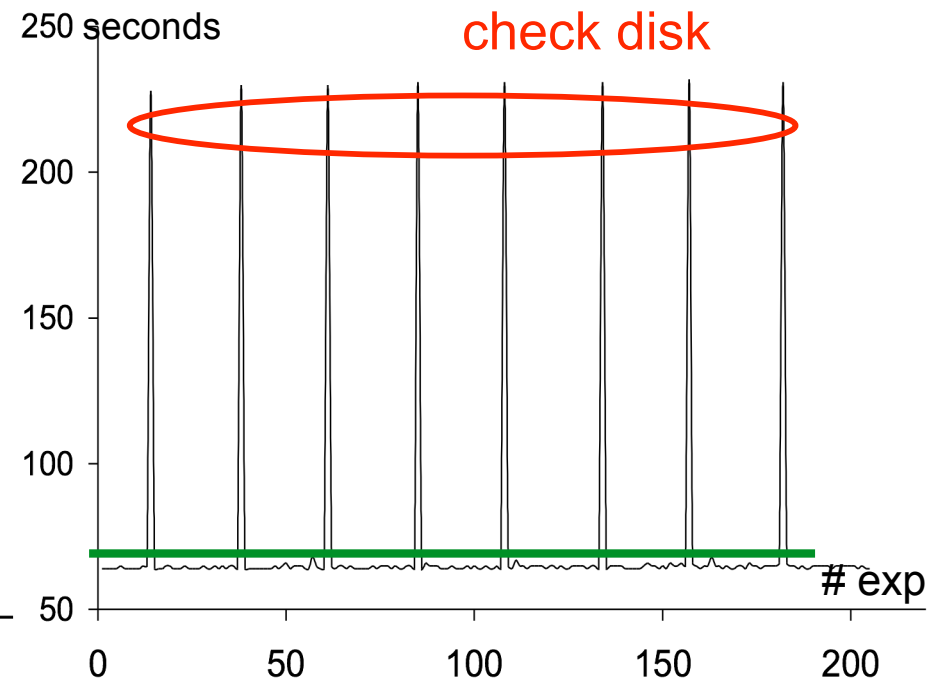
- In the presence of faults
- Without parameter corruption

# Detailed OS Restart times

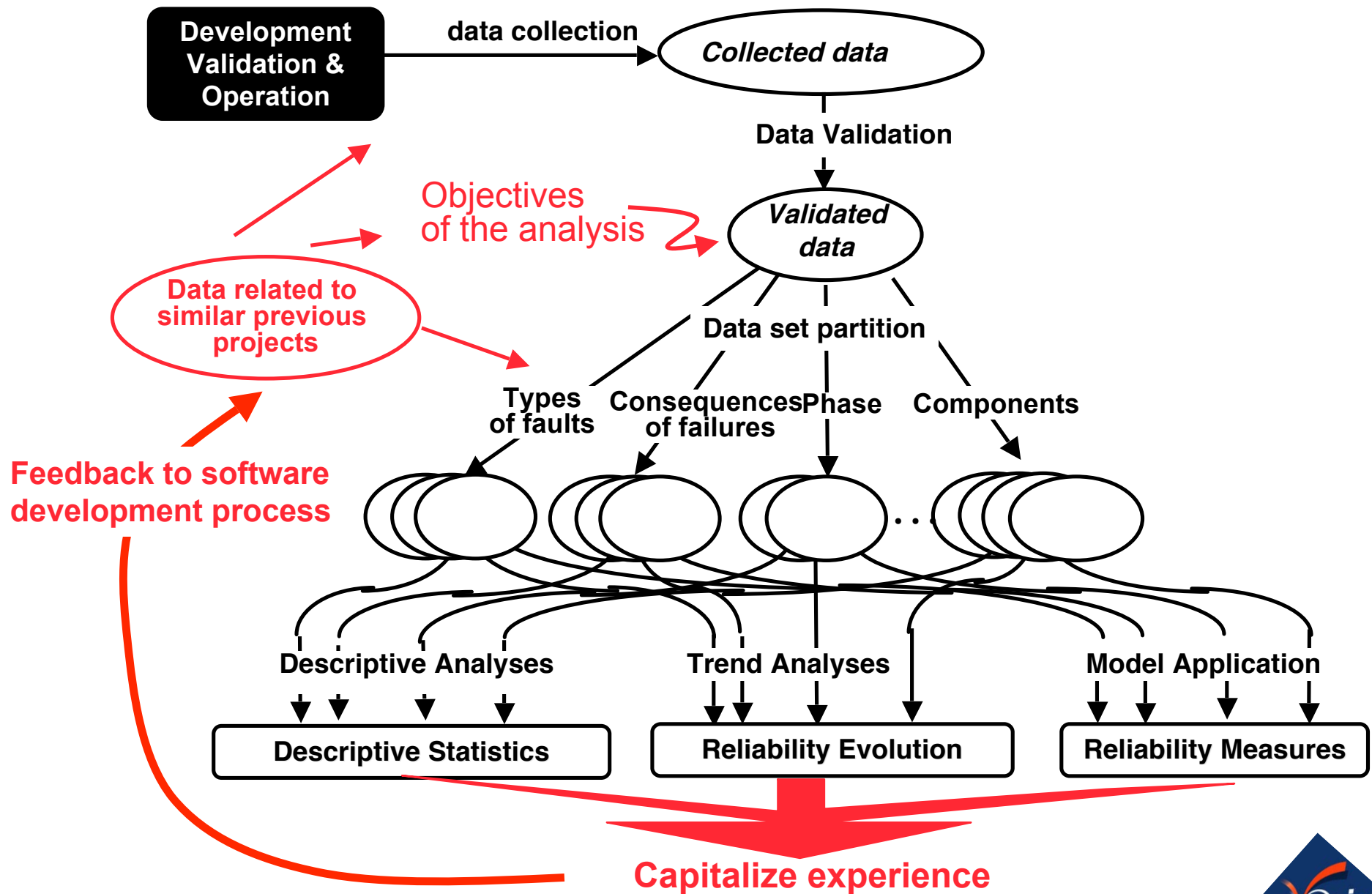
## Windows XP



## Linux 2.2.26



# Summary





# SOFTWARE PROCESS IMPROVEMENT (SPI)

## (The maturity process)

- ☞ To obtain consistent quality of the software  
⇒ control the production process ⇒ improve the software process
- ☞ The engineering method:
  - Observe existing solutions
  - Propose better solutions
  - Build / develop
  - Measure and analyze
  - Repeat the process until no more improvements possible⇒ evolutionary / continuing improvement oriented approach

Models for **process maturity** or **organization maturity**

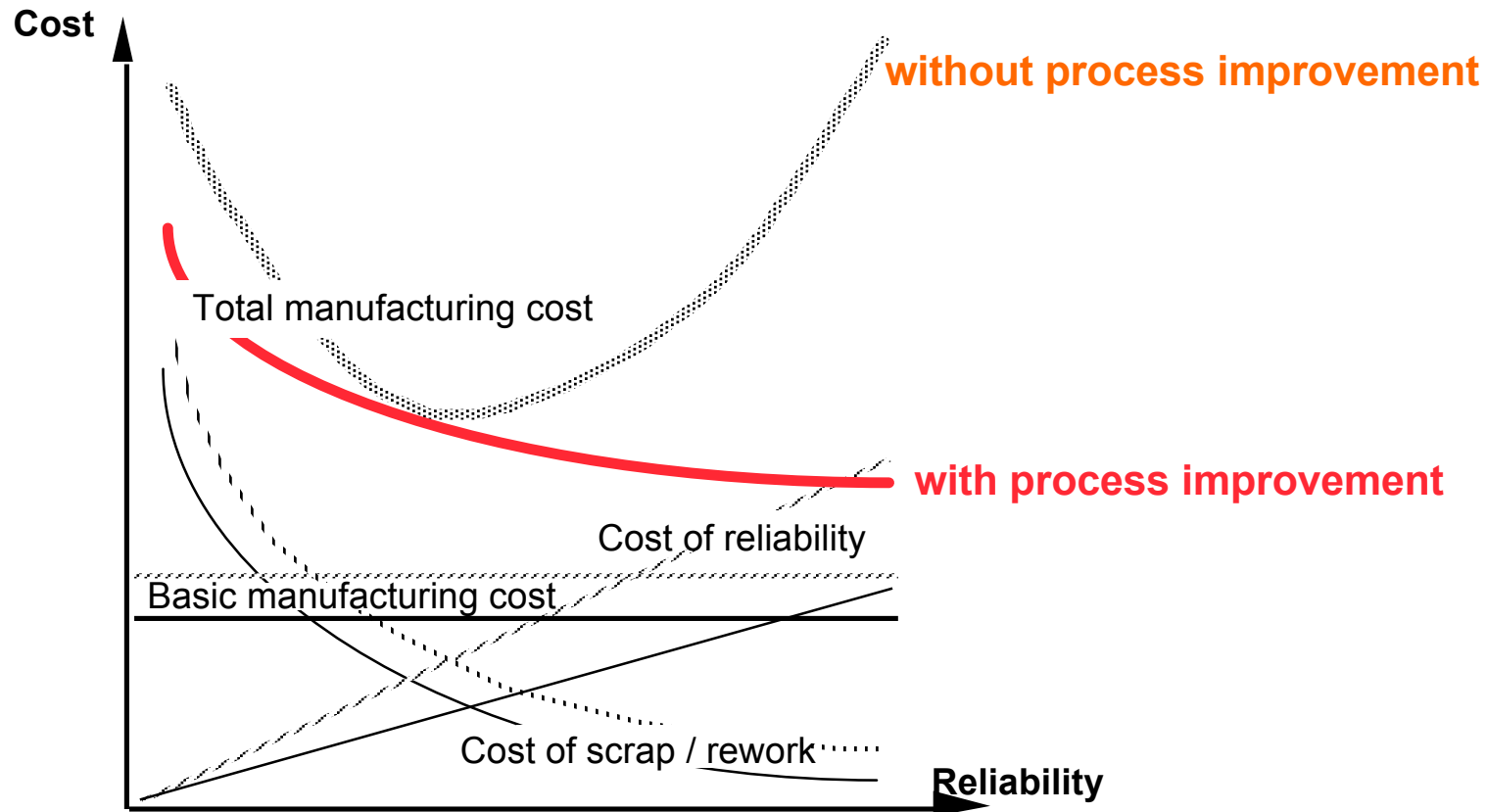
Aim: assess the organization maturity level

[See reference 11]

# Some existing methods / models

- ✎ Crosby: **Satisfaction by Quality Scheme** to software development
- ✎ Weinberg: The **Software Engineering Culture Patterns**
- ✎ Humphrey: **A Maturity Framework**  $\Rightarrow$  The Capability Maturity Model
- ✎ Other approaches:
  - AT&T: **Quality Program**
  - Fujitsu: **Concurrent-Development Process Model**
  - IBM: **The Cleanroom Software Development Process**
  - IBM Communication Systems: **The Defect Prevention Process**
  - ODC (Orthogonal Defect Classification)
  - etc.

## Cost and reliability evolution, taking into account process improvement



**PROCESS IMPROVEMENT**

**RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENT**

**COST REDUCTION**

## Example of benefits from SPI introduction

- ☞ **IBM** (cleanroom approach):

Productivity increase = 70% for development and 100% for testing

- ☞ **IBM** (defect prevention approach):

Fault density divided by 2 with an increase of 0.5 % of the product resources

- ☞ **Fujitsu** (concurrent development process):

Release cycle reduction = 75 %

- ☞ **AT&T**(quality program):

Customer reported problems divided by 10

Maintenance program divided by 10

System test interval divided by 2

New product introduction interval divided by 3

Importance of operational profile (principal cost in SRE): ≠ test efficiency

## Example of benefits from SPI introduction (Cont'd)

- ☞ Raytheon (Electronic Systems), CMM:

  - Rework cost divided by 2 after two years of experience

  - Productivity increase = 190%

  - Product quality: multiplied by 4

- ☞ Raytheon (Equipment Division), CMM:

  - Rework cost divided by 4 (elimination of \$15.8 million in rework cost)

  - Productivity multiplied by 2

  - Return on investment 7.7-to-1

- ☞ Hughes Aircraft (Software Engineering Division, Fullerton CA) :

  - 1987: level 2  $\Rightarrow$  recommendations & actions  $\Rightarrow$  level 3 in 1990

  - Return on investment of process improvement initiative: 5-to-1

- ☞ Motorola (Arlington Heights), mix of methods:

  - Fault density reduction = 50 within 3.5 years

# CASE STUDIES

- ☞ TROPICO-R 1500 [See reference 3]

Reliability analysis and evaluation

- ☞ TROPICO-R 4096 [See reference 7]

Software decomposition

Reliability analysis and evaluation

- ☞ Three generations of TROPICO-R [See reference 8]

Comparative evolution: fault density and reliability

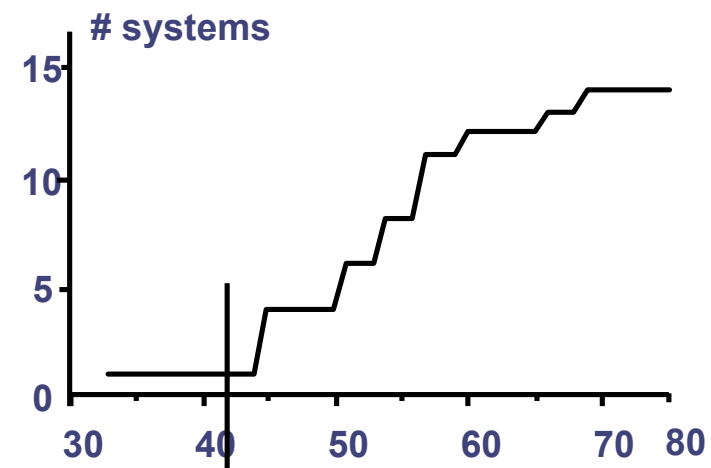
# TROPICO-R 1500

## ☞ Characteristics

- Language: Assembly
- Size: 300 k-bytes
- Validation: 10 months, 297 failures / corrections
- Field trial: 4 months, 55 failures/corrections
- Operation: 13 months, 109 failures/corrections
- Total : 461

## ☞ Data

- Number of failures / unit of time
  - ☞ unit of time: 10 days
  - ☞ observation duration: 81 units of times
- Times to failures
  - ☞ operational life only



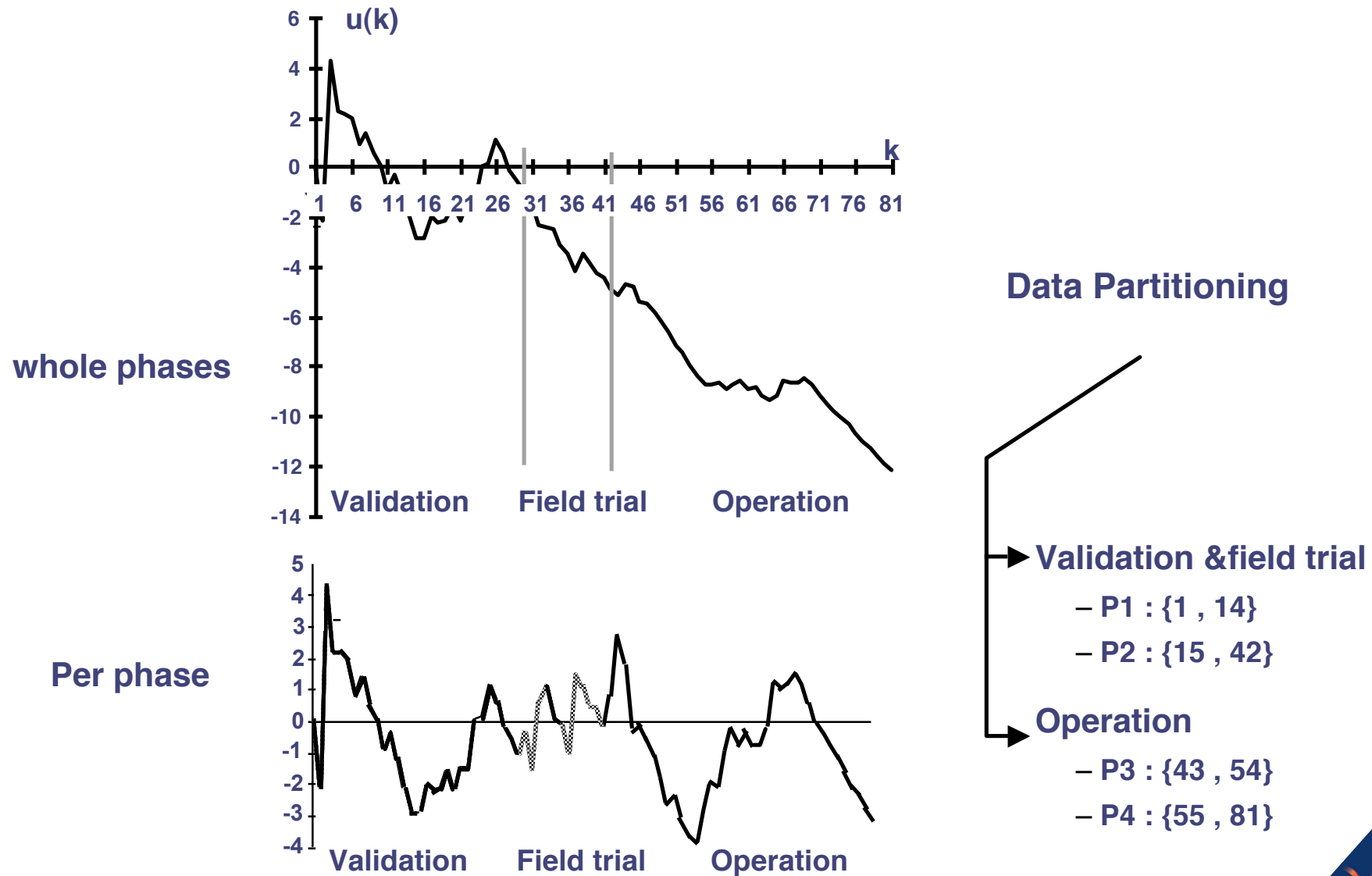
# Data set

CNF:  
cumulative  
# of failures

Validation		Field test		Operation	
u. time	CNF	u. time	CNF	u. time	CNF
1	7	31	301	43	356
2	8	32	302	44	367
3	36	33	310	45	373
4	45	34	317	46	373
5	60	35	319	47	378
6	74	36	323	48	381
7	82	37	324	49	383
8	98	38	338	50	384
9	106	39	342	51	384
10	115	40	345	52	387
11	120	41	350	53	387
12	134	42	352	54	387
13	139			55	388
14	142			56	393
15	145			57	398
16	153			58	400
17	157			59	407
18	174			60	413
19	183			61	414
20	196			62	417
21	200			63	419
22	214			64	420
23	223			65	429
24	246			66	440
25	257			67	443
26	277			68	448
27	283			69	454
28	286			70	456
29	292			71	456
30	297			72	457
				73	458
				74	459
				75	459
				76	459
				77	459
				78	460
				79	460
				80	460
				81	461



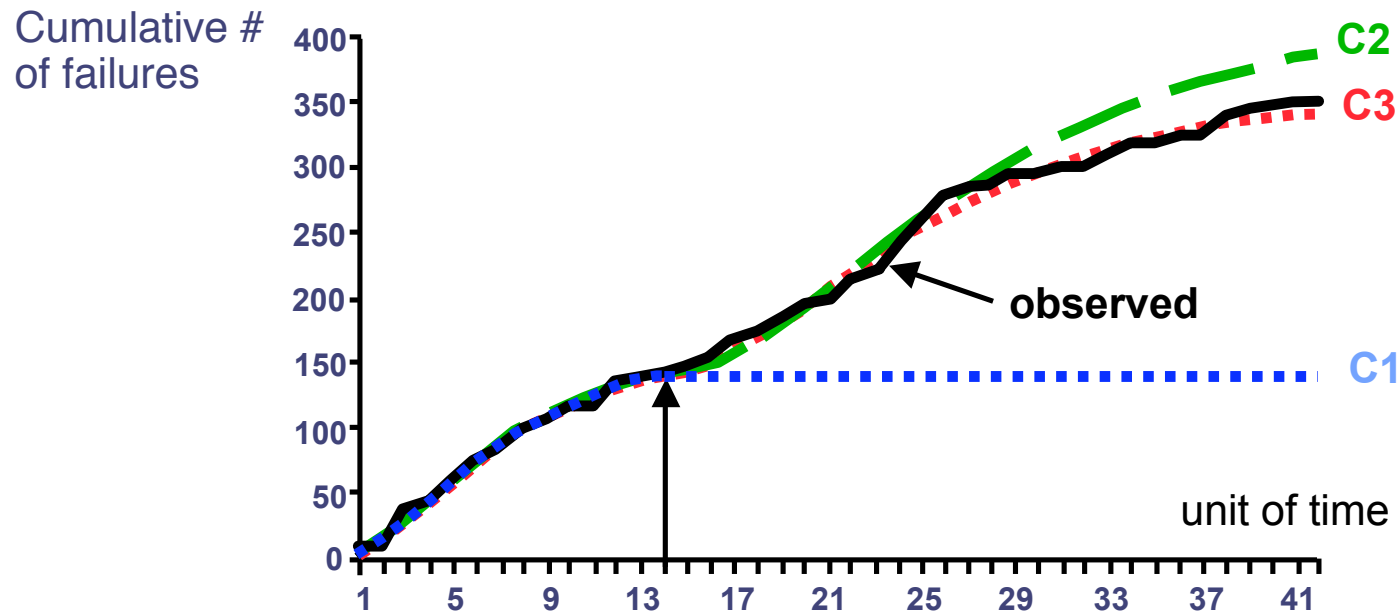
# Test de Laplace & data partitioning



# Model Application

## (Number of failures)

- Validation & field trial, application of the S-Shaped model



C1 : calibrated from {1,8}  
 C2 : calibrated from {15,27}  
 C3 : calibrated from {15,29}

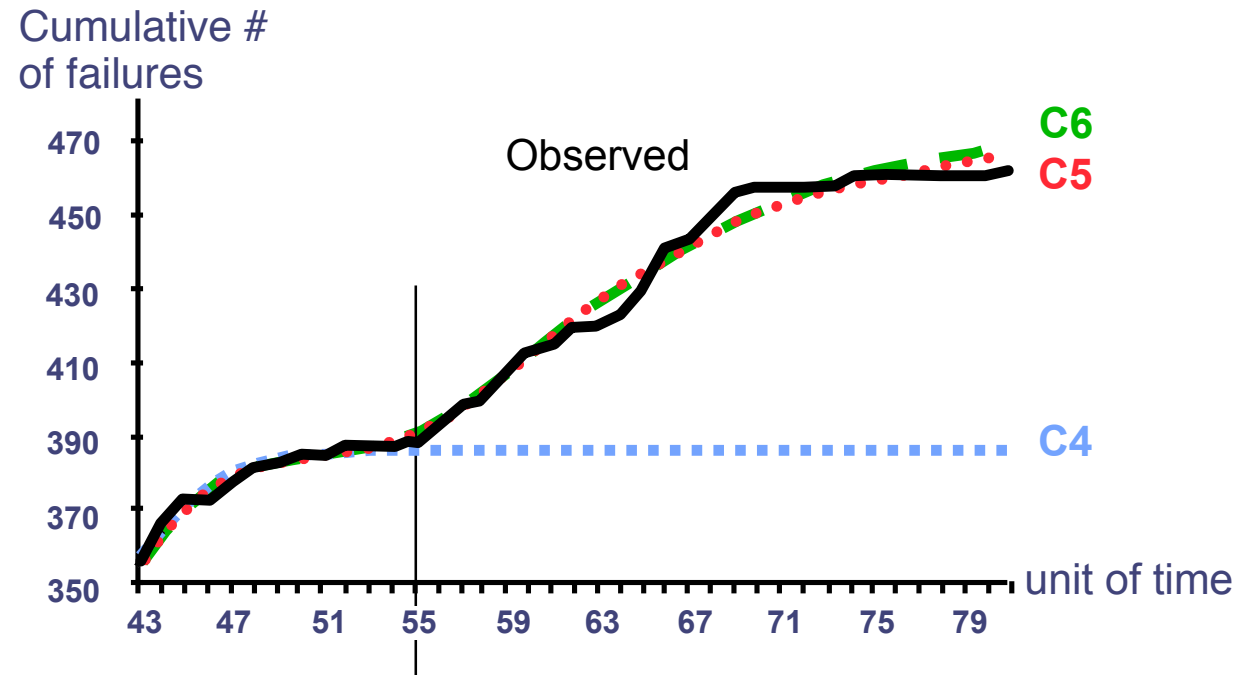
	$R_{9,14}$	$R_{28,42}$	$R_{30,42}$
C1	2,6		
C2		28,4	31,2
C3			5,8

# Model application

## (Number of failures)

### Operational life, application of the S-Shaped model (SS)

- 



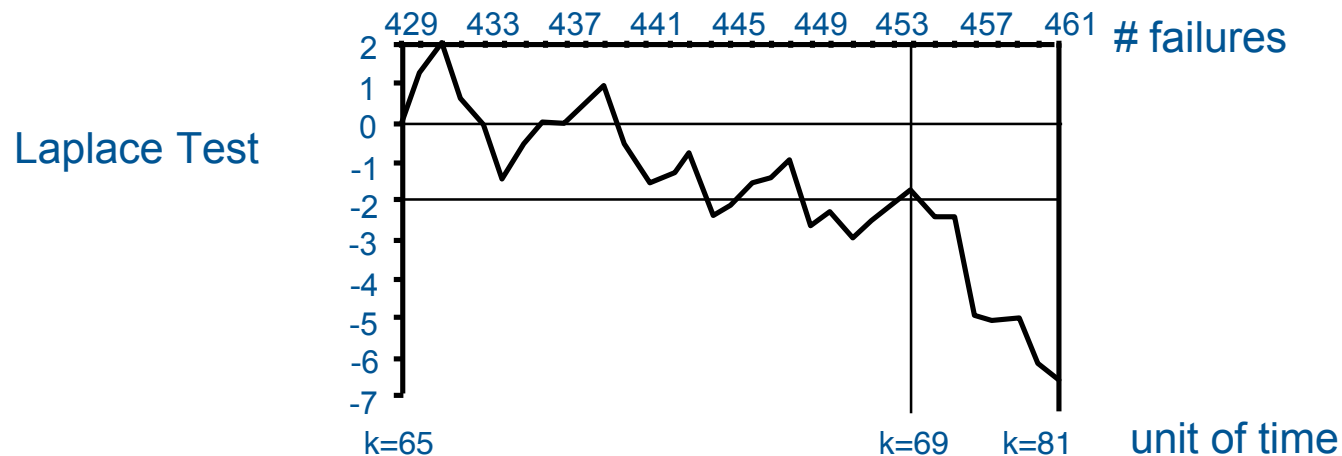
### Prediction for next quarter (all systems)

2 failures the next month  
& 1 failure / month the next two months

Residue	$R_{51,55}$	$R_{74,81}$	$R_{76,81}$
C4	1,8		
C5		4,3	5,3
C6			3,5

## Model application (times to failures)

- ➡ Operational life, average system, application of the Hyperexponential model



**Software residual failure rate for an average system**

$$\lambda_{\text{sof}} = 1,3 \cdot 10^{-4} / \text{h} \quad (\text{all consequences})$$

**Hardware failure rate (known from a different study)**

$$\lambda_{\text{har}} = 4 \cdot 10^{-6} / \text{h} \quad (\text{leading to system unavailability})$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_{\text{har}} \ll \lambda_{\text{sof}}$$

➡ **apply reliability growth models to failures leading to total unavailability**

# Model application according to software components & to failure consequences

## ☞ Other switching system E-10-B

- Hyperexponential model

Component	$\lambda_r(10^{-7} / \text{h})$
Telephony	7,5
Defense	27,4
Exploitation	7,3
Executive	8,3
<b>All corrections</b>	<b>47,5</b>

Consequence	$\lambda_r(10^{-7} / \text{h})$
General unavailability	1,2
Partial unavailability	7,9
Exploitation treat. delay	3,7
Loss of a hardware unit	3,1
<b>All failures</b>	<b>38,2</b>

# TROPICO-R 4096

## ☞ Characteristics

- Language: Assembly
- Size: 335 k-bytes
- Validation : 8 months, 76 failures / corrections
- Operation: 24 months, 134 failures/corrections
- Total: 210

## ☞ Data

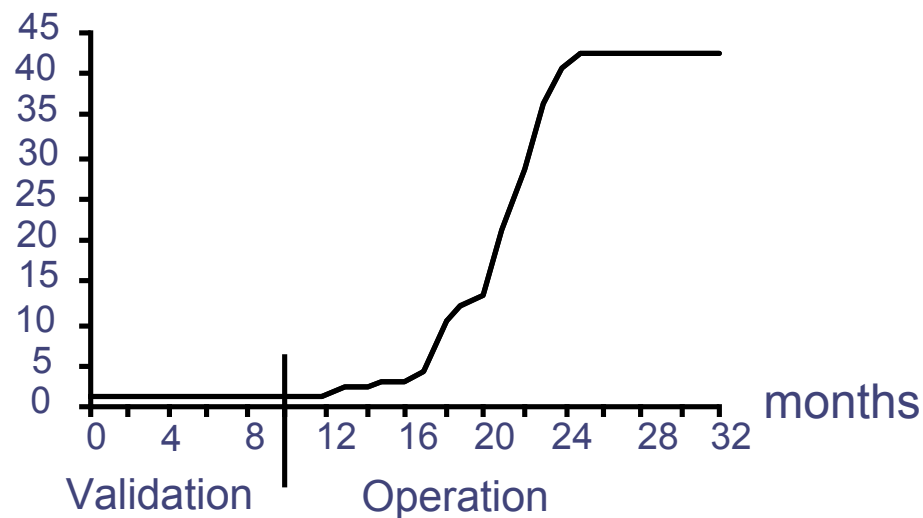
- Number of failures / unit of time
  - ☞ observation period: 32 months
- Times to failures
  - ☞ for operational life

# Software decomposition and # of systems

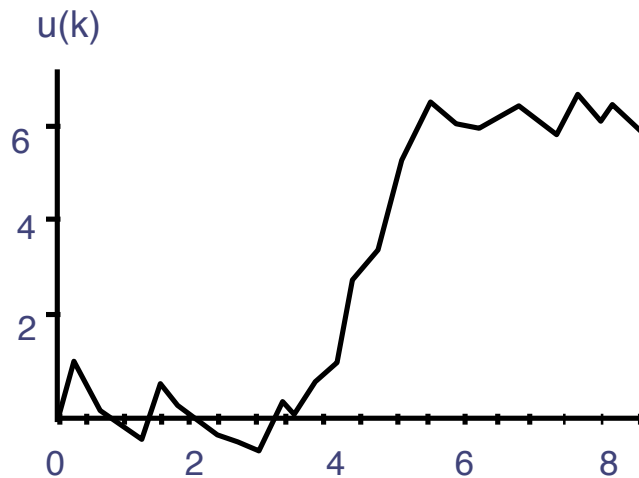
## ☞ Decomposition

	Volume	# failures
<b>Telephony</b>	75 k-bytes	74 ( 34 - 40)
<b>Defense</b>	117 k-bytes	67 ( 20 - 47)
<b>Interface</b>	115 k-bytes	61 ( 20 - 41)
<b>Management</b>	44 k-bytes	31 ( 13 - 18)

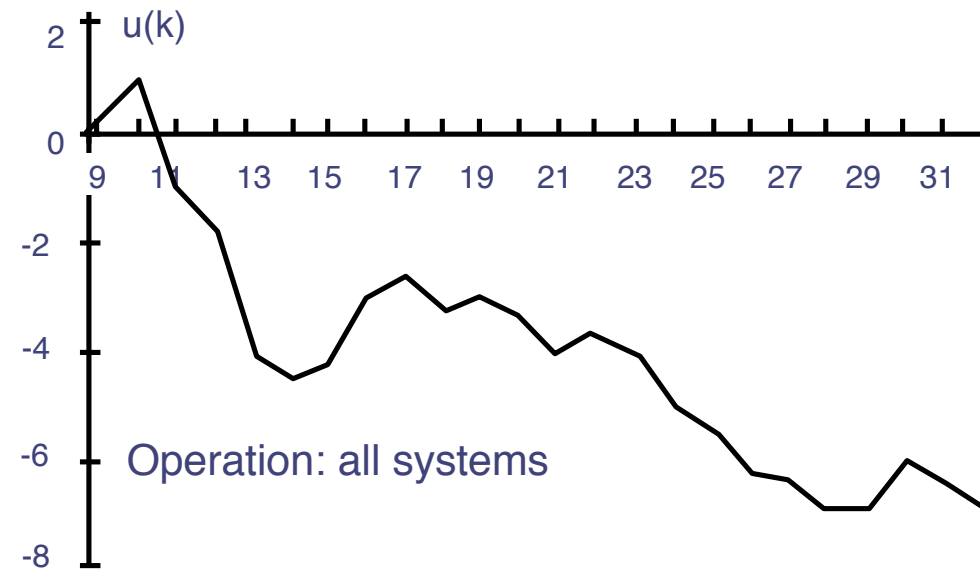
## ☞ Number of systems



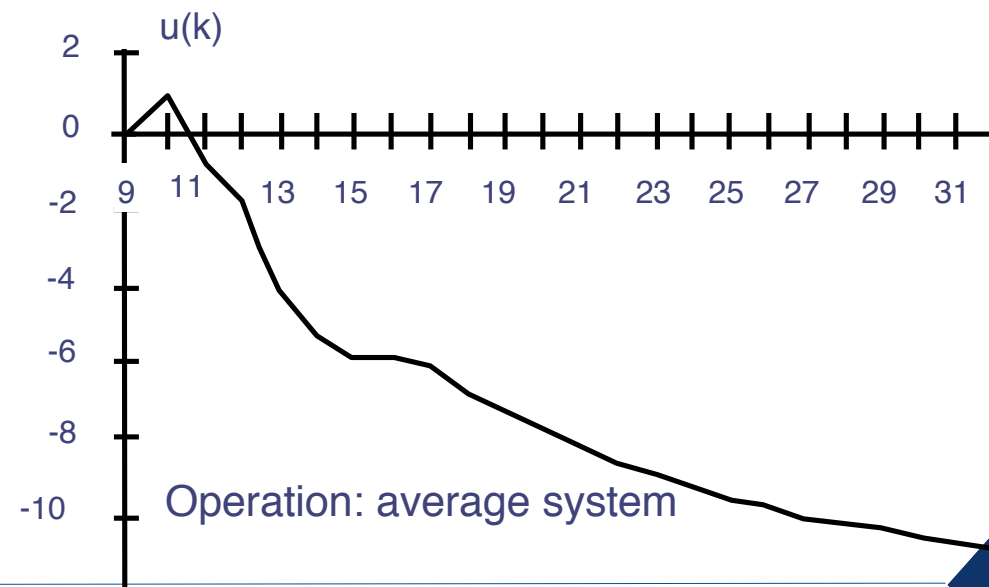
# Laplace Test



Validation



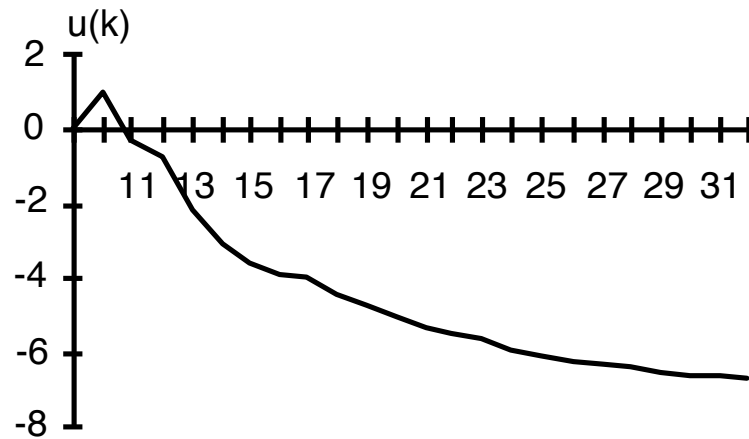
Operation: all systems



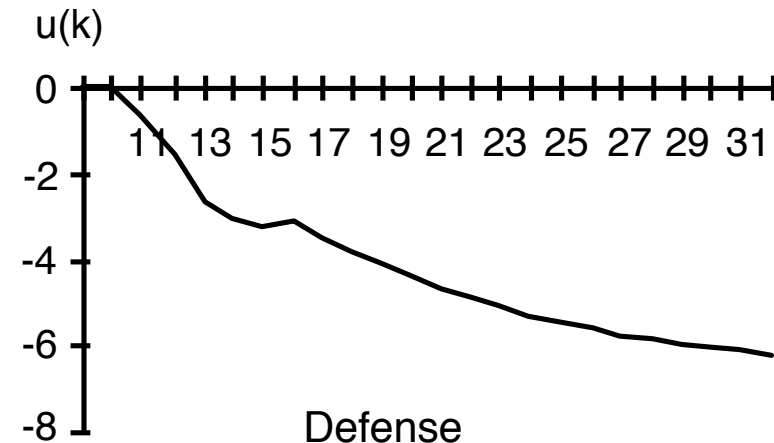
Operation: average system



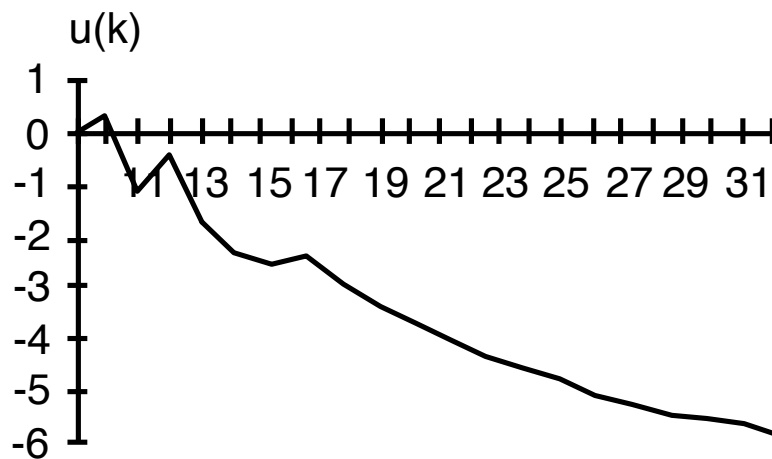
# Laplace Test for the software components



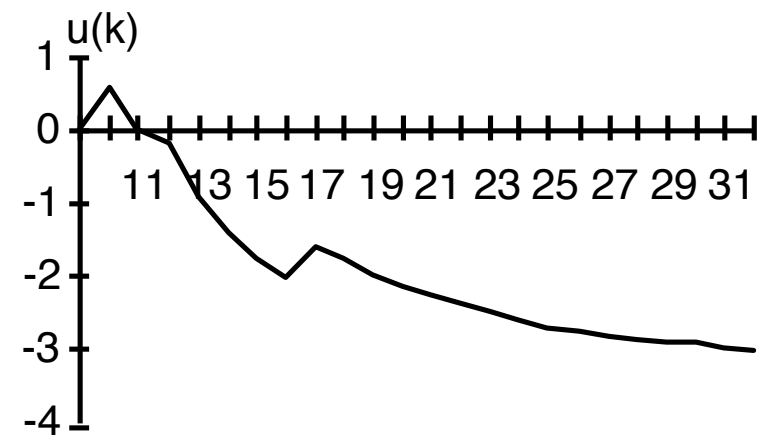
Telephony



Defense

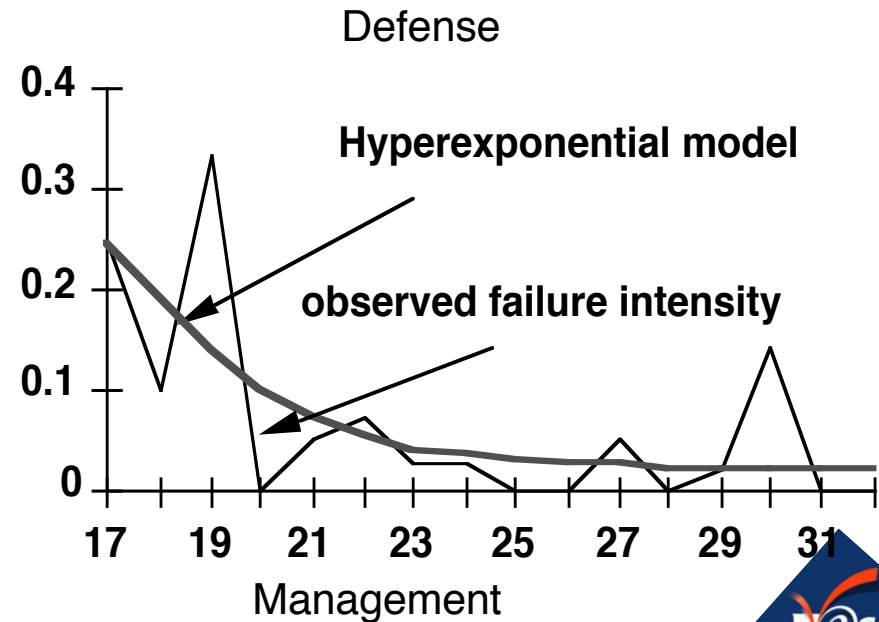
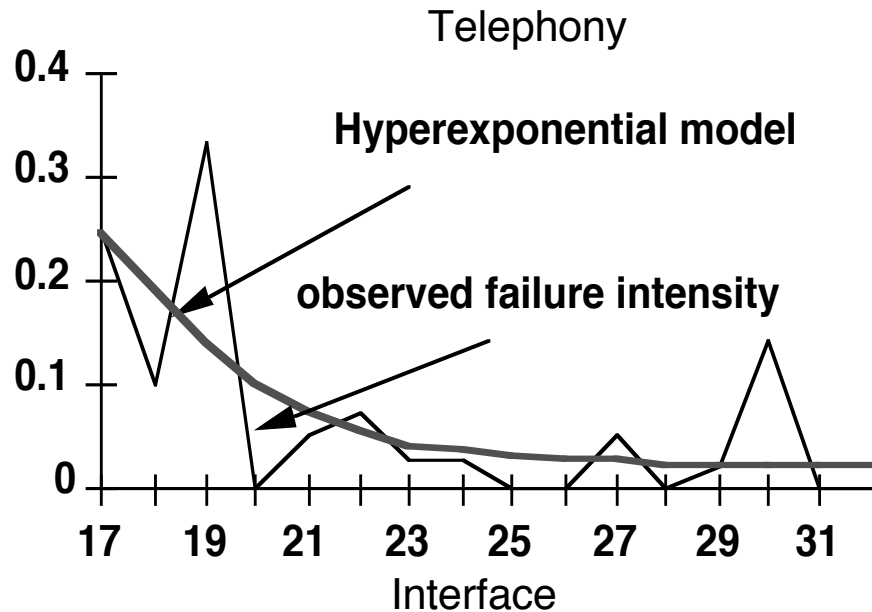
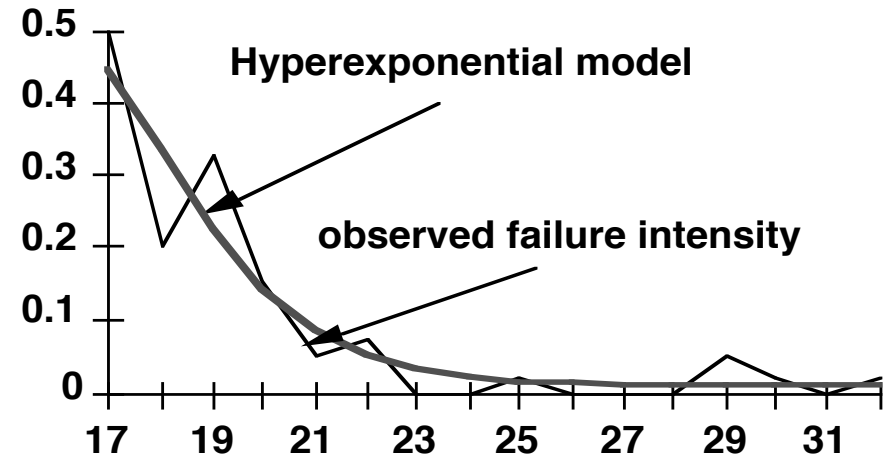
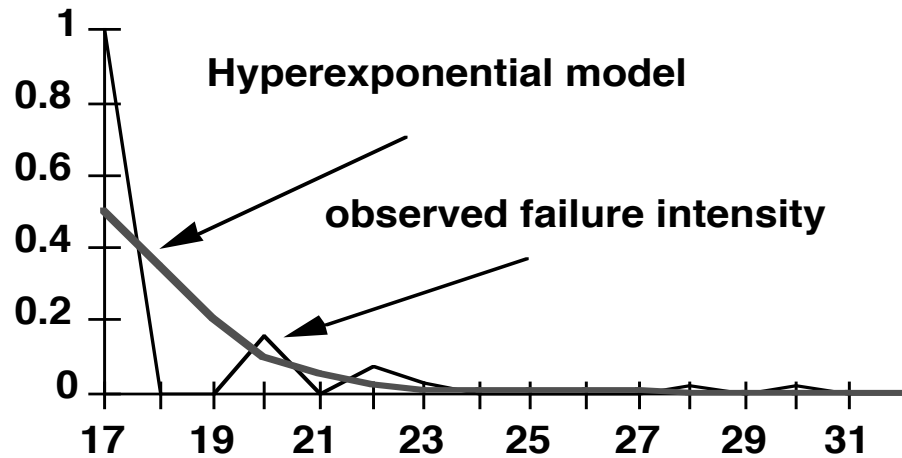


Interface



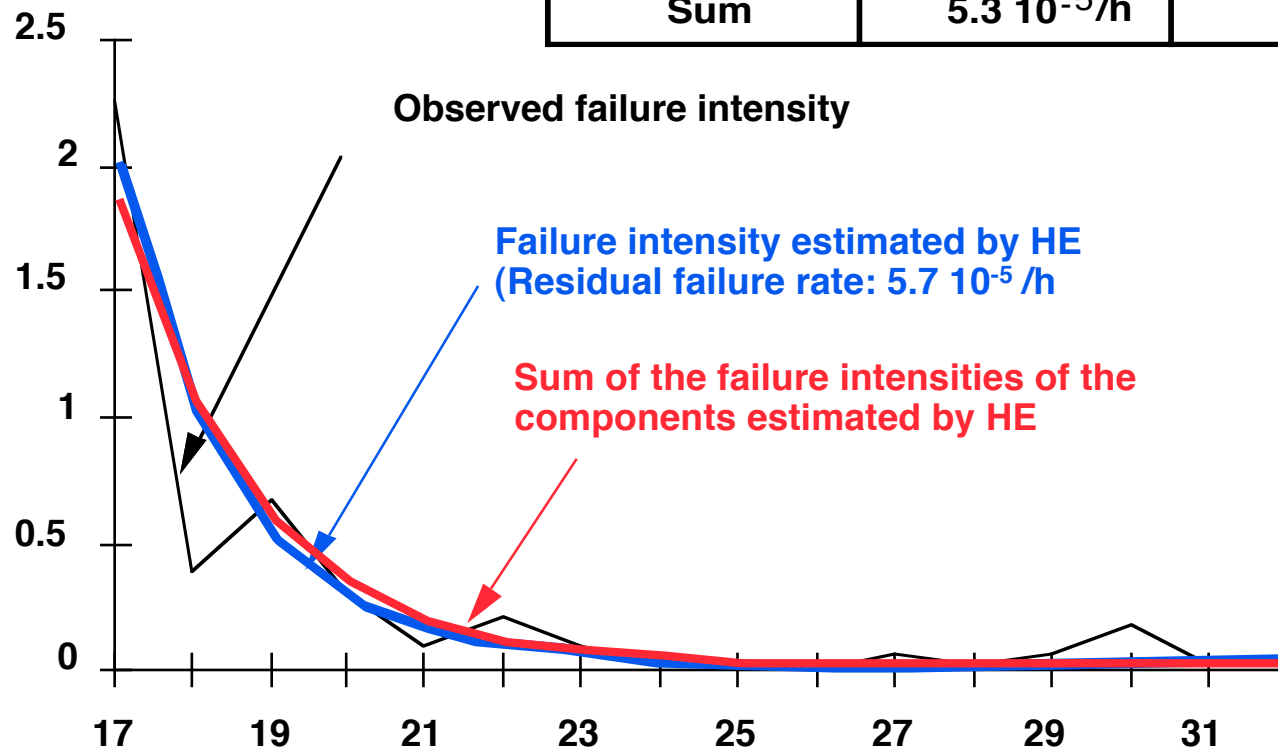
Management

# Failure intensity: Hyperexponential model application

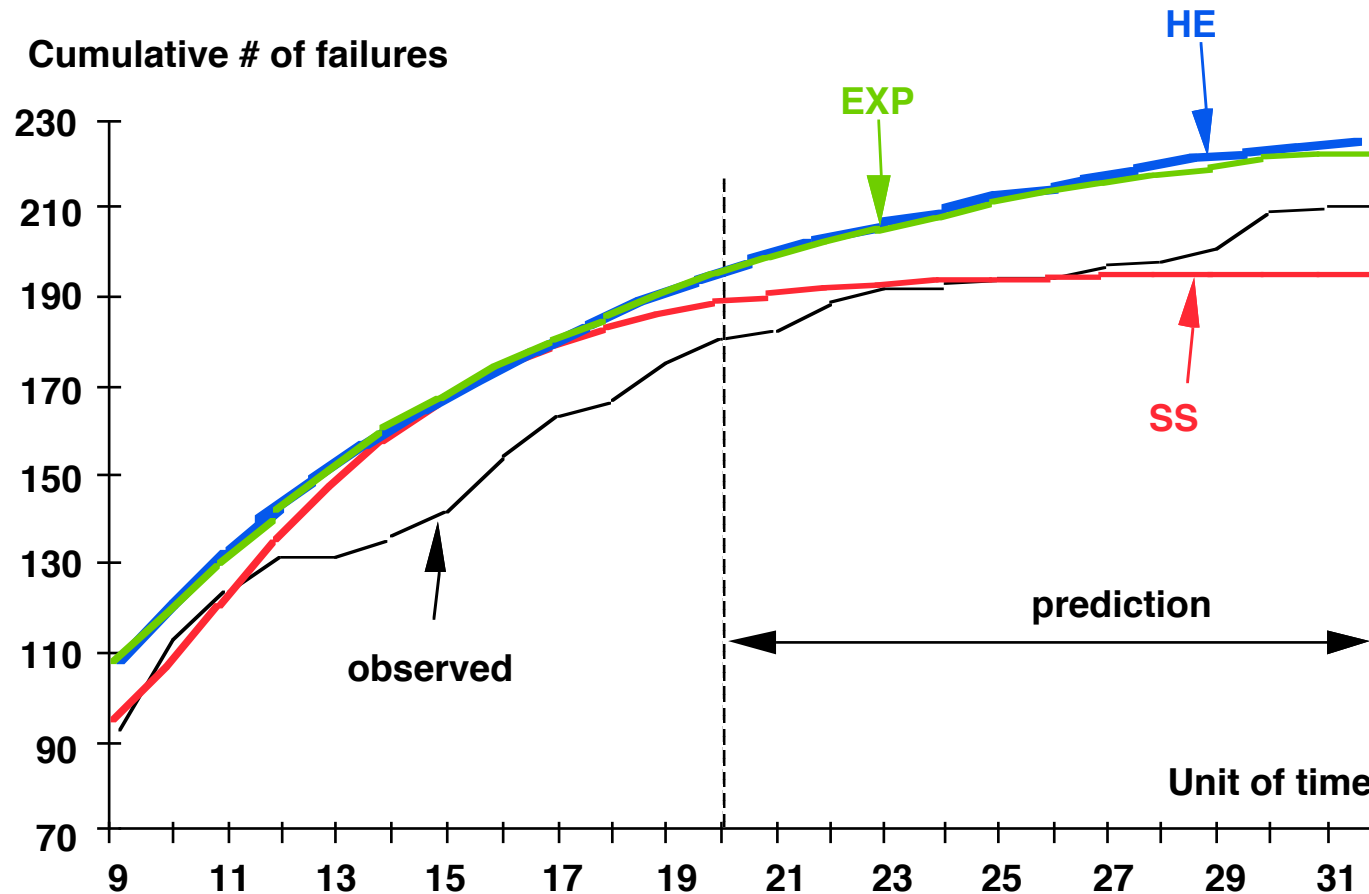


## Residual failure rates (Hyperexponential model)

	Residual failure rate	Size (Kb)
Telephony	$1.2 \cdot 10^{-6} / \text{h}$	75
Defense	$1.4 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$	103
Interface	$2.9 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$	115
Management	$8.5 \cdot 10^{-6} / \text{h}$	42
Sum	$5.3 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$	335



# Maintenance planning



Estimated # failures from 20 to 32:

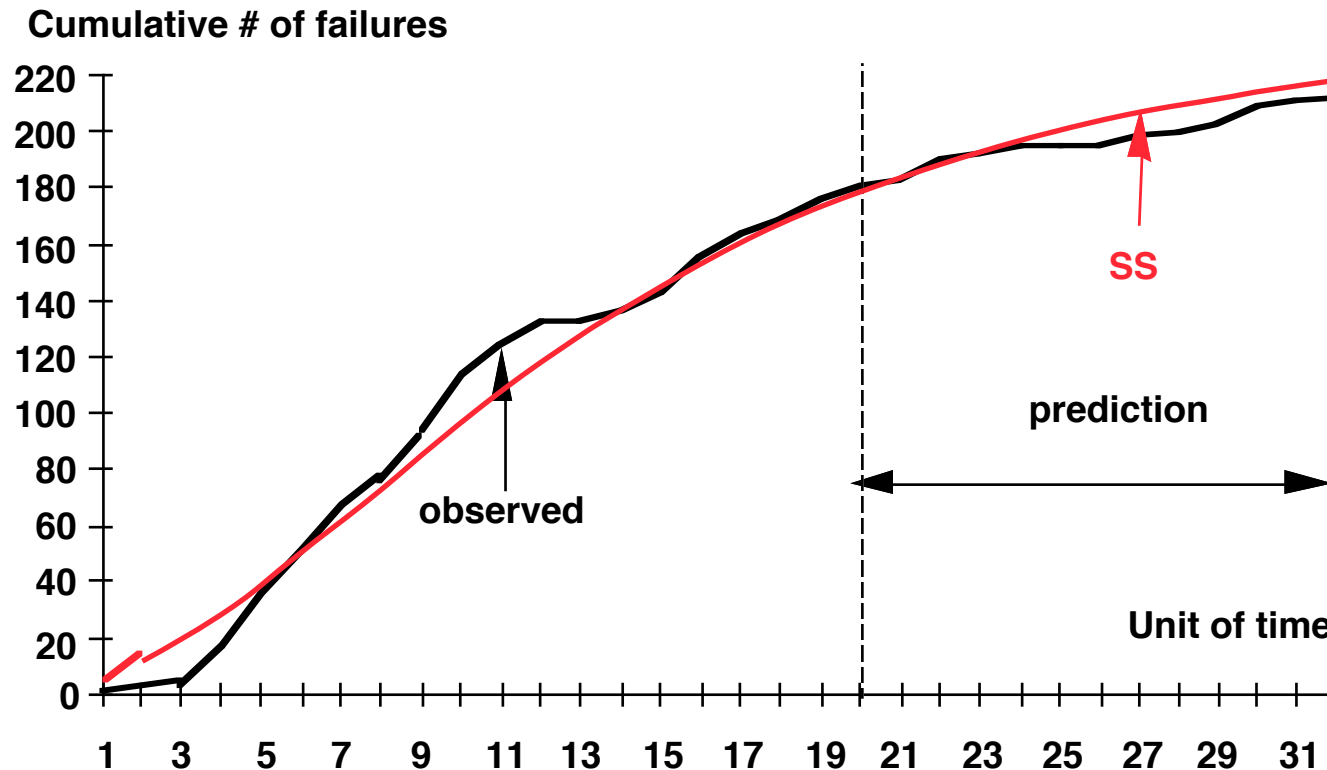
Exponential: 33

Hyperexponential: 37

S-Shaped: 9

Observed: 34

# Maintenance planning



**Estimated # failures from 20 to 32: 40**

**Observed: 34**

# Software Reliability Analysis of Three Successive Generations of a Switching System

## Outline

- The products investigated
- Data collected
- Statistics on failures and faults
- Residual failure rates
- Conclusion

# Products & Software

- Three products

TROPICO-R 1500	(PRA)
TROPICO-R 4096	(PRB)
TROPICO-RS	(PRC)

- Software components (Applicative & Executive software)

Elementary Implementation Blocks (EIB)
Functions

Telephony	(TEL)
Defense	(DEF)
Interface	(INT)
Management	(MAN)

# Software decomposition and size

PRA

	# EIB	size (Kbytes)
TEL	6	72
DEF	9	93
INT	10	113
MAN	4	42
Sum	29	320

PRB

	# EIB	size (Kbytes)
TEL	6	75
DEF	12	117
INT	10	115
MAN	4	44
Sum	32	351

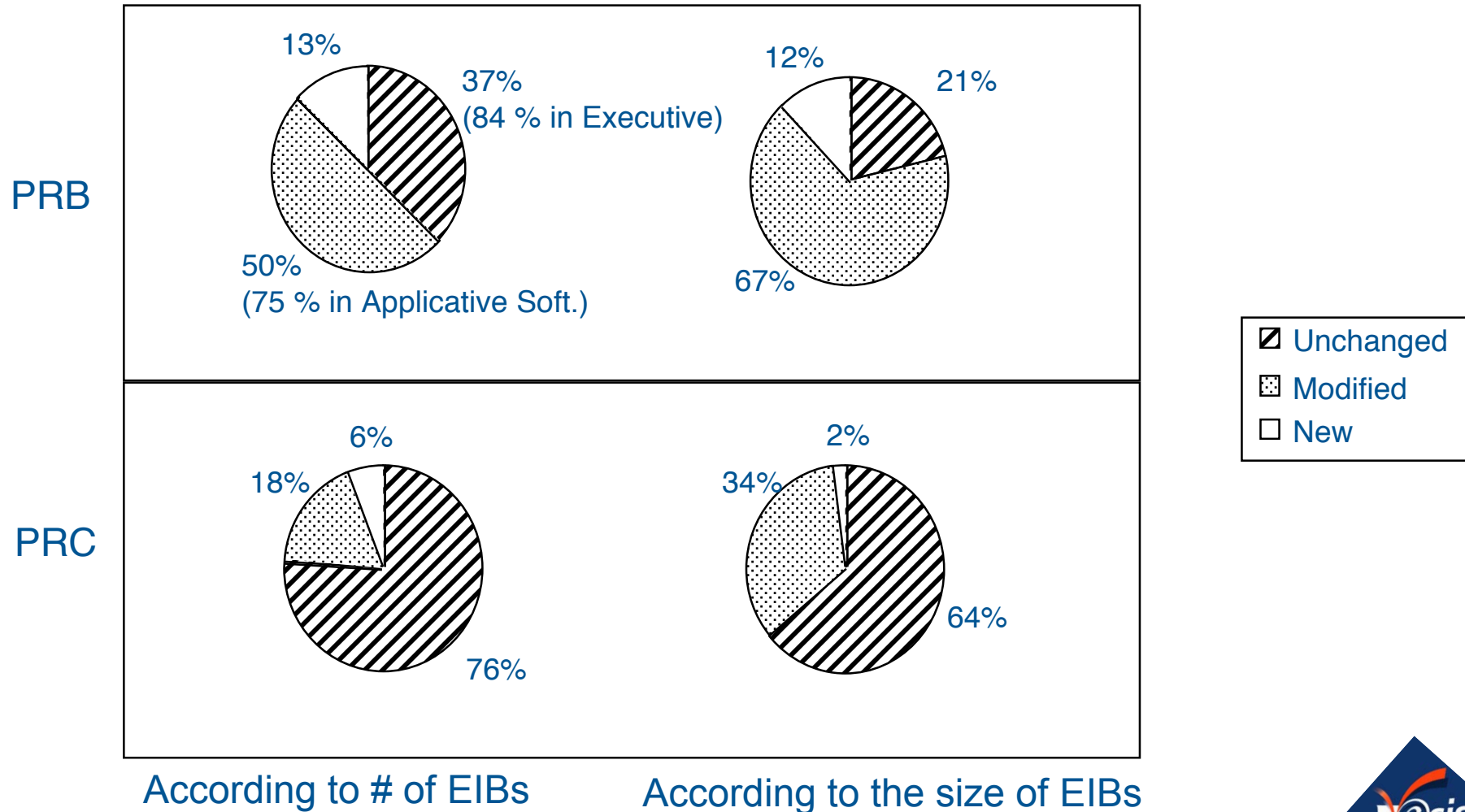
PRC

	# EIB	size (Kbytes)
TEL	8	111
DEF	12	130
INT	10	129
MAN	4	51
Sum	34	421



# EIB Distribution

- Two types of EIBs: new — reused (modified / unchanged)



# Test environment and failure data

- Software test program

Steps: unit tests, integration tests, validation tests, field tests

Validation tests: functional, quality, performance, overload tests

- Failure reports & Trouble reports (FRs & TRs)

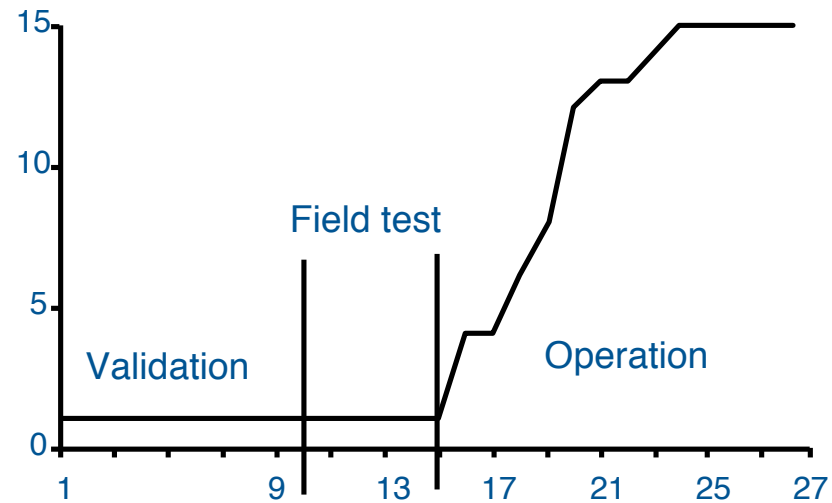
- Date of failure occurrence (static analysis ≠ date of detection)
- Description of system configuration in which the failure was observed
- Type: hardware, software, documentation, affected EIBs
- Analysis: identification— classification of faults (coding, specification, etc.)
- Solutions
- Regression testing

- An FR is a failure report and also a correction report

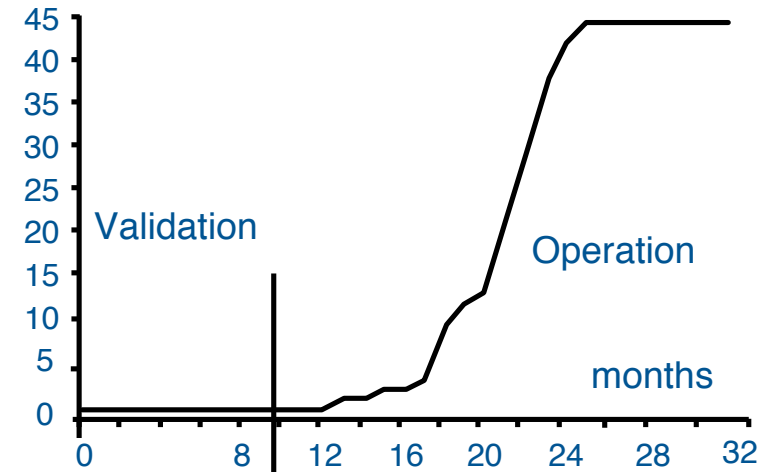
- Rediscoveries are not recorded

# Data Collection

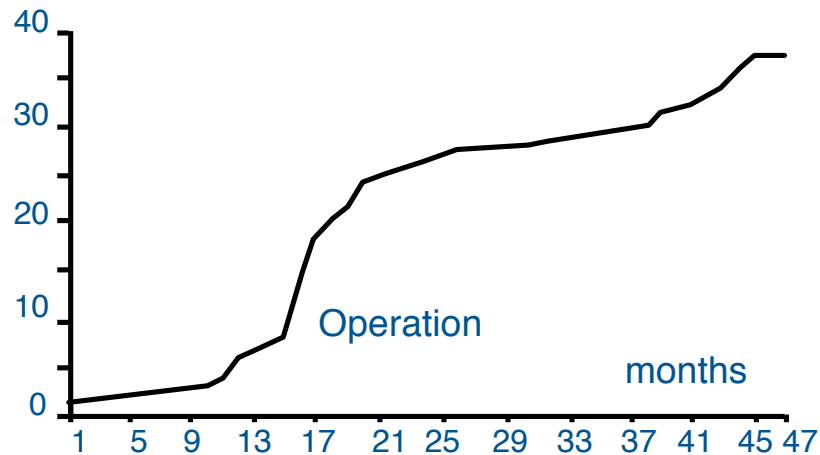
# PRA systems



# PRB systems



# PRC systems



# Statistics on Failures and Faults

	# FR (# TR)	# CF
PRA	465	637
PRB	210	282
PRC	212 (105)	394

☞ >70 % of failures led to modification of one EIB

# corrected EIBs	# FR in PRA	# FR in PRB	#FR+TR in PRC
1	362 (77.8%)	165 (78.6%)	228 (71.9%)
2	72 (15.5%)	33 (15.7%)	69 (21.8%)
≥ 3	31 (6.7%)	12 (5.7%)	20 (6.3%)

☞ identify EIBs which are dependent w.r.t failure occurrence  
(2 pairs of strongly dependent EIBs)

# Statistics on Failures and Faults (cont'd)

PRA

	# FR	# CF	Size
TEL	146	190	72
DEF	138	164	93
INT	170	191	113
MAN	78	92	42
Sum	532	637	320

PRB

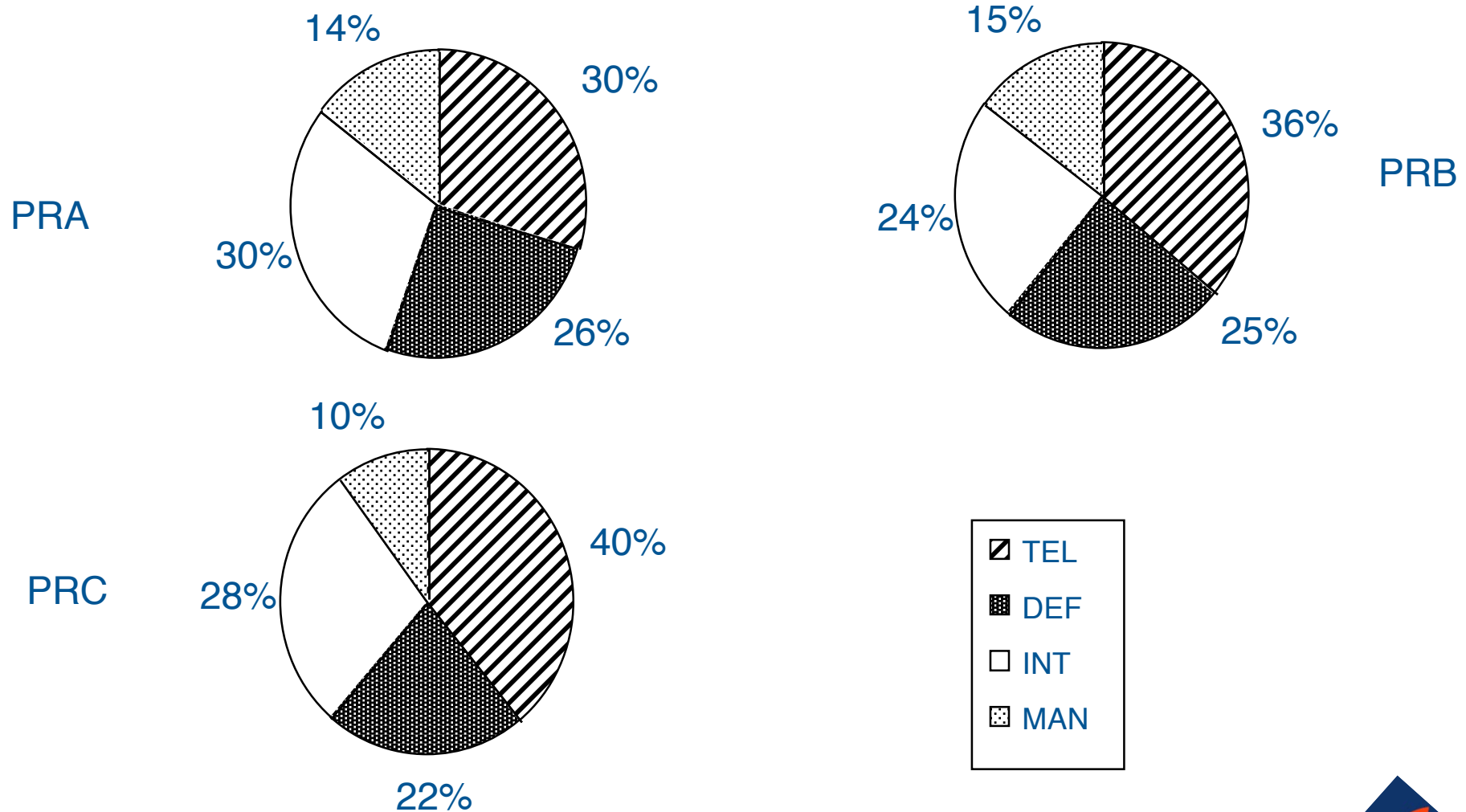
	# FR	# CF	Size
TEL	74	102	75
DEF	67	71	117
INT	61	68	115
MAN	31	41	44
Sum	233	282	351

PRC

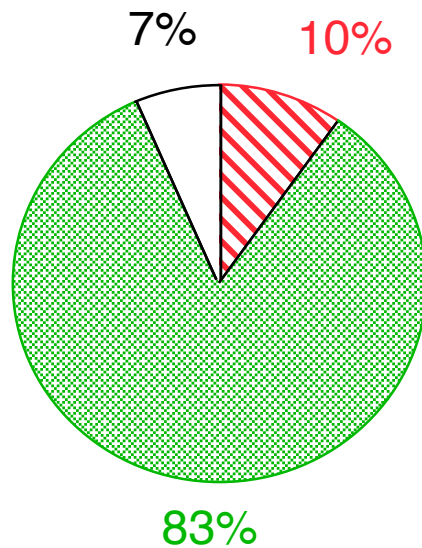
	# FR (# TR)	# CF	Size
TEL	65 (52)	155	111
DEF	63 (21)	88	130
INT	72 (27)	112	129
MAN	25 (10)	40	51
Sum	225 (110)	395	421

👉 90% of FRs led to modification of only one Function

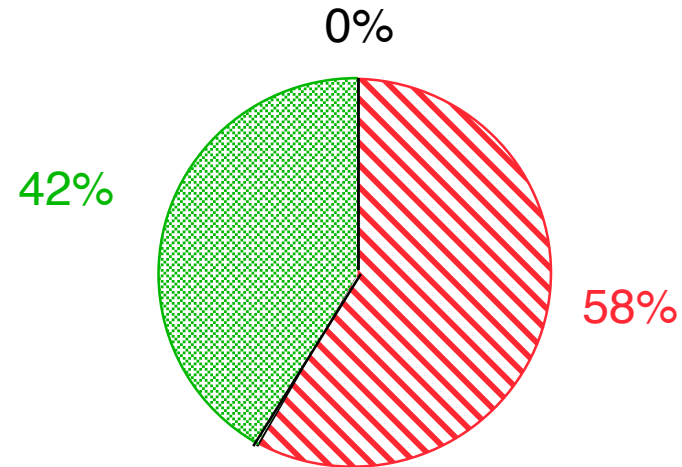
# Distribution of faults among functions



## Distribution of faults per EIB type



**PRB**



**PRC**

■ Unchanged  
■ Modified  
□ New

# Average fault density

☞ versus EIB size

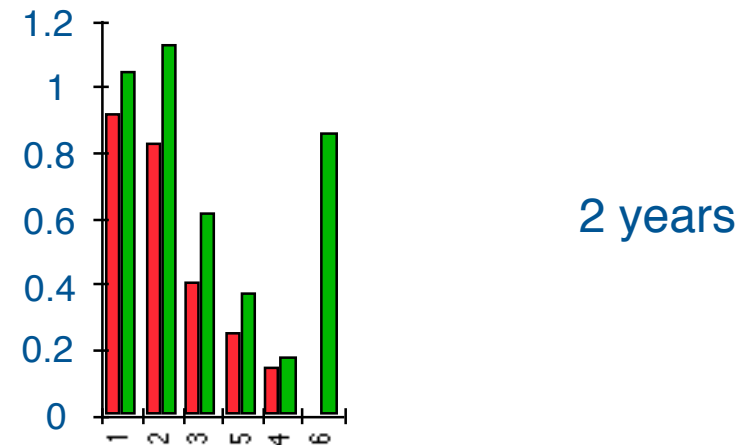
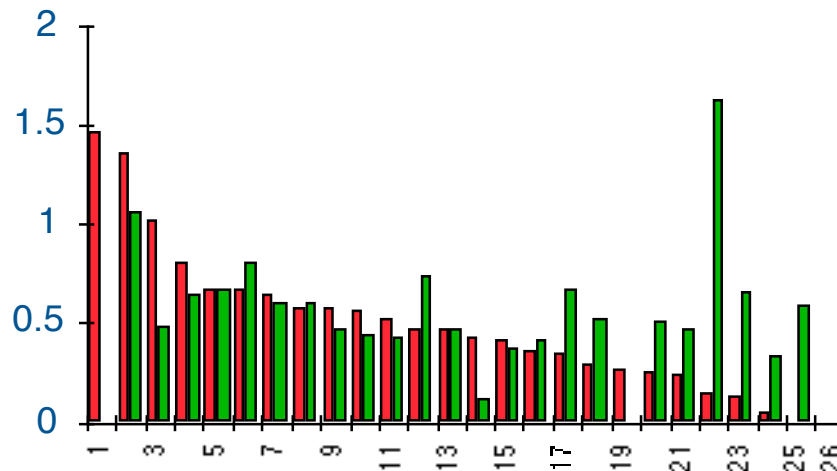
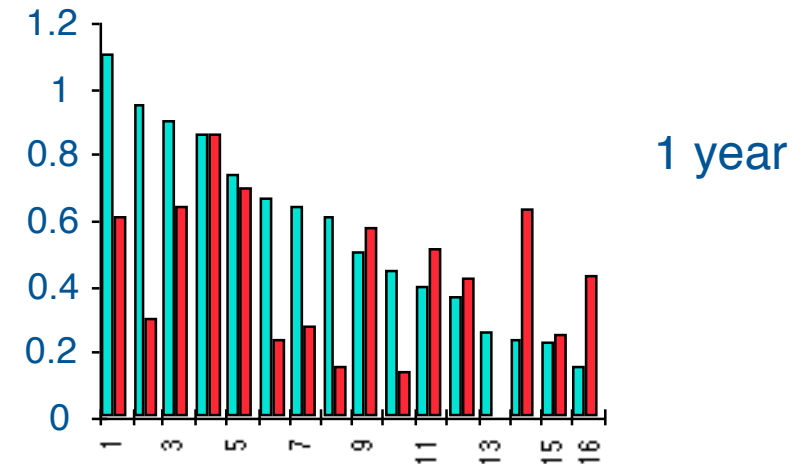
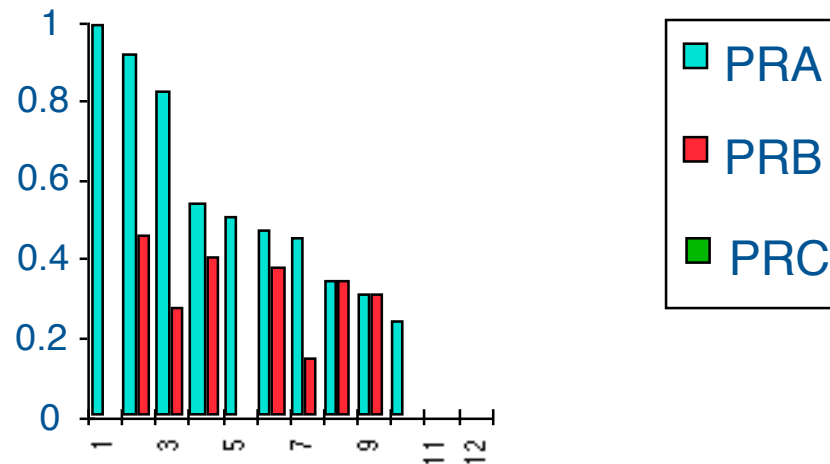
Size	PRA	PRB	PRC (all faults)	PRC (only faults relative to FRs)
EIB size > 15 Kb	1.80	1.08	0.99	0.65
10 Kb <EIB size< 15 Kb	2.02	0.68	0.58	0.47
5 Kb <EIB size< 10 Kb	2.31	0.60	0.96	0.52
EIB size< 5 Kb	2.56	0.71	0.62	0.56
Average fault density	2.1	0.76	0.79	0.55

☞ data collected during operation

	PRA	PRB	PRC
After 13 months	0.34	0.35	0.3
After 24 months	-	0.47	0.6



# Fault density evolution / EIB type (Operation)



Unchanged EIBs

Modified EIBs

## Residual failure rates

	PRA	PRB	PRC
TEL	$2.6 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$	$1.2 \cdot 10^{-6} / \text{h}$	$4.3 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$
DEF	$4.3 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$	$1.4 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$	$1.9 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$
INT	$4.2 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$	$2.9 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$	$3.2 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$
MAN	$1.4 \cdot 10^{-6} / \text{h}$	$8.5 \cdot 10^{-6} / \text{h}$	$9.9 \cdot 10^{-6} / \text{h}$
Sum	$1.124 \cdot 10^{-4} / \text{h}$	$5.27 \cdot 10^{-5} / \text{h}$	$1.03 \cdot 10^{-4} / \text{h}$

# Conclusion

- PRA & PRB
  - Similar development environment  $\Rightarrow$  reliability improvement
- PRC
  - Learning process interrupted  $\Rightarrow$  reliability improvement?
- PRA, PRB & PRC
  - Residual failure rates: same order of magnitude
  - Failure rate of the software =  
sum of the failure rates of its components
- Additional experimental studies
  - $\Rightarrow$  factors impacting the reliability of a family of products

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