

Lecture 3

Review of Software Processes

Top-Down Design

- Break down a big idea into small digestible parts
 - Eating an Elephant
 - Cut into small pieces and chew
- Deductive reasoning is employed in our reductionism
- Can be fatally flawed from a bias or mistake at the top level

Bottom-up Design

- Piece together small understood components to build a larger system
 - Often as we go along
 - Think “building with Legos”
 - More inductive reasoning employed with small examples implying a likely larger conclusion
 - Organic strategy can get messy and not point to a useful generalization

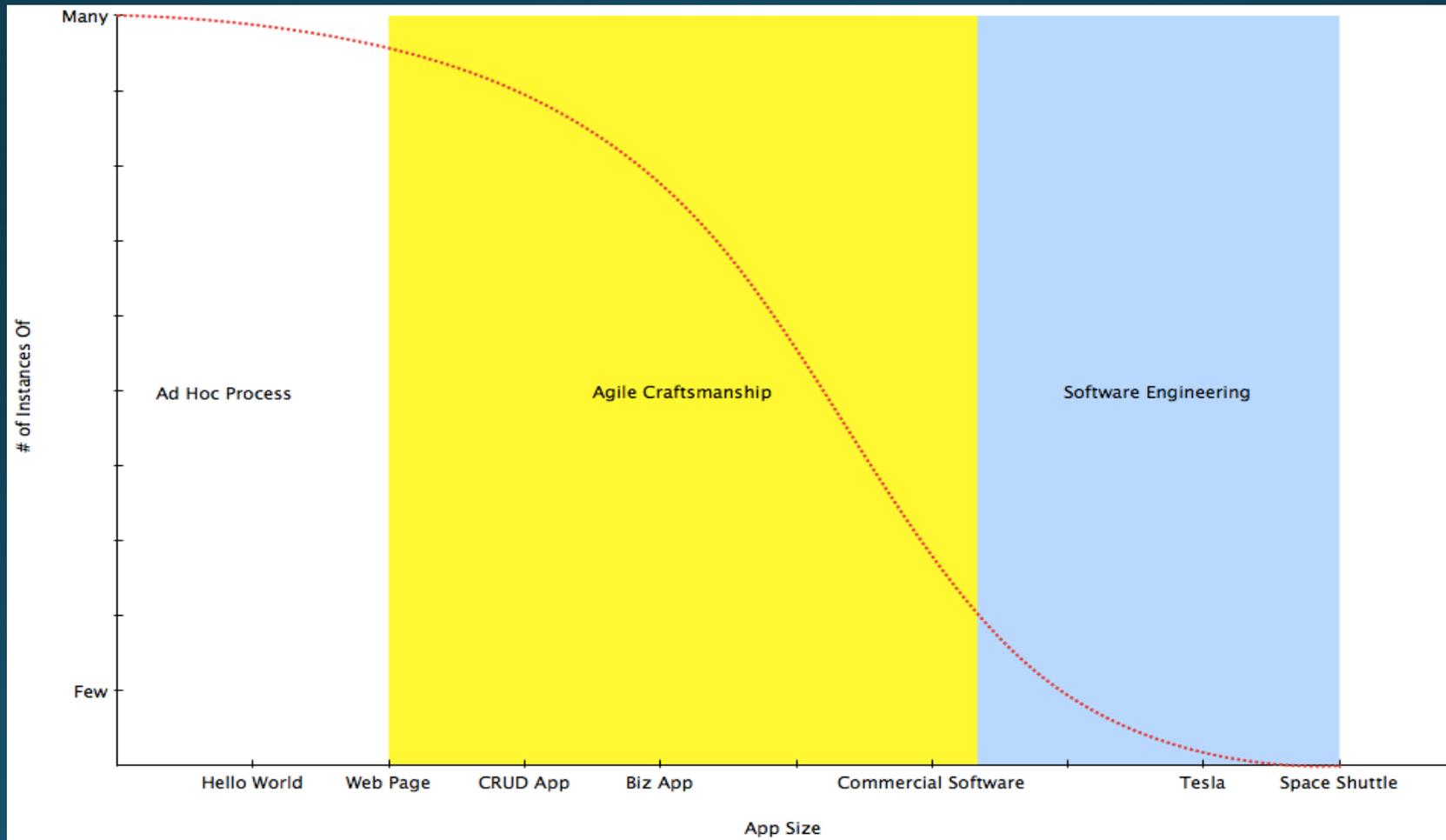
Top and Bottom

- Reality is when approaching problems you often need both approaches.
 - High level planning and work it out as you go!
 - Example: Writing my book(s)
- We will see a tension between the extremes in our SE models which suggest a continuum as opposed to an absolute blend

One Size Won't Fit All

- Depending on situation, circumstance, type of product, etc. SE methodologies make no (or make perfect) sense
 - Airplane control software
 - “Maybe we should really plan this out”
 - My hot new social software for dogs
 - “My gut says this is a winner! We need to get it out there!!!!”

Meeting the Range of Needs



The Need for Process

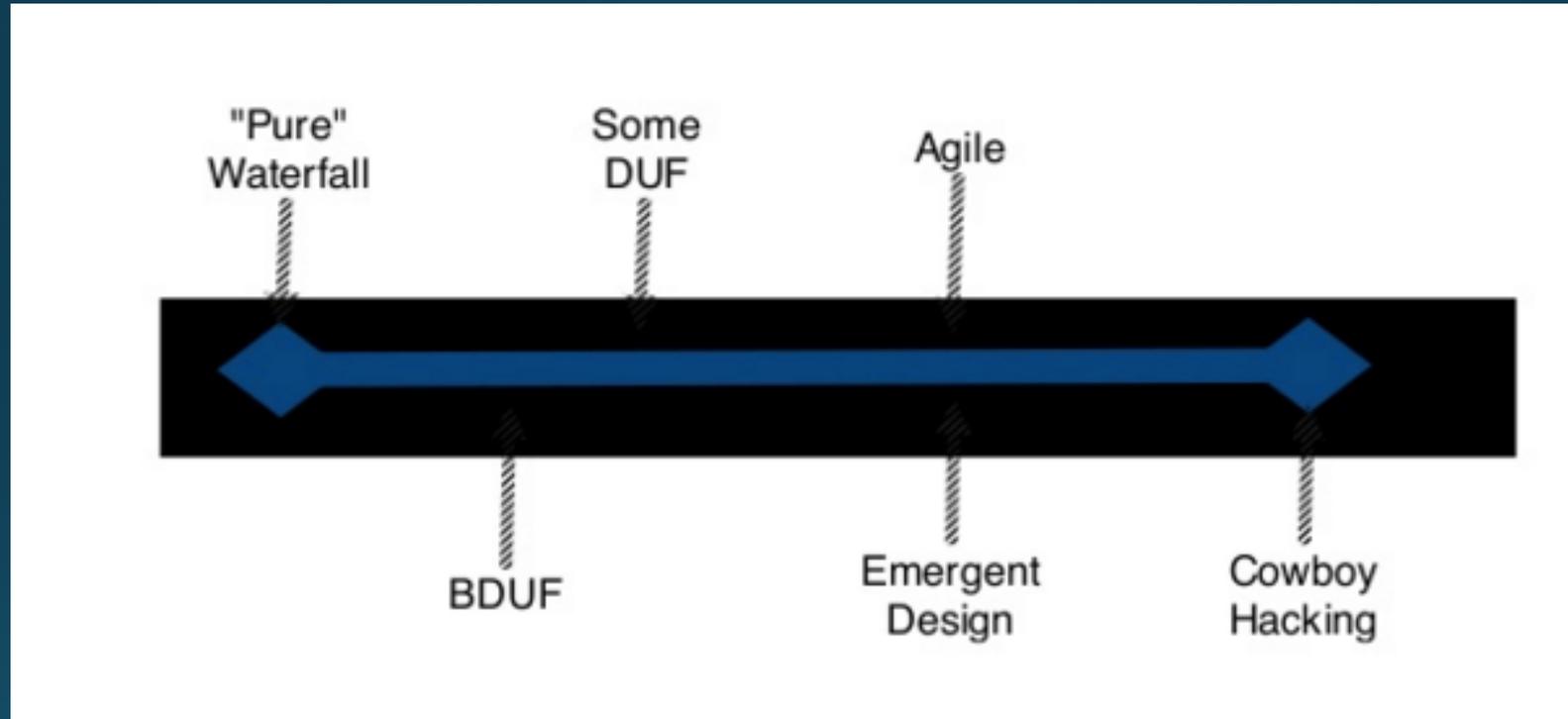
- We need process to build software
 - reliably
 - on time
 - on budget
 - with quality
- ...and not have it be a miserable experience

Goal: Moving to Knowing

- Regardless of method utilized a successful development processes requires knowing where are in a project. How it is going, how long it will take to finish, etc.



Spectrum of Process



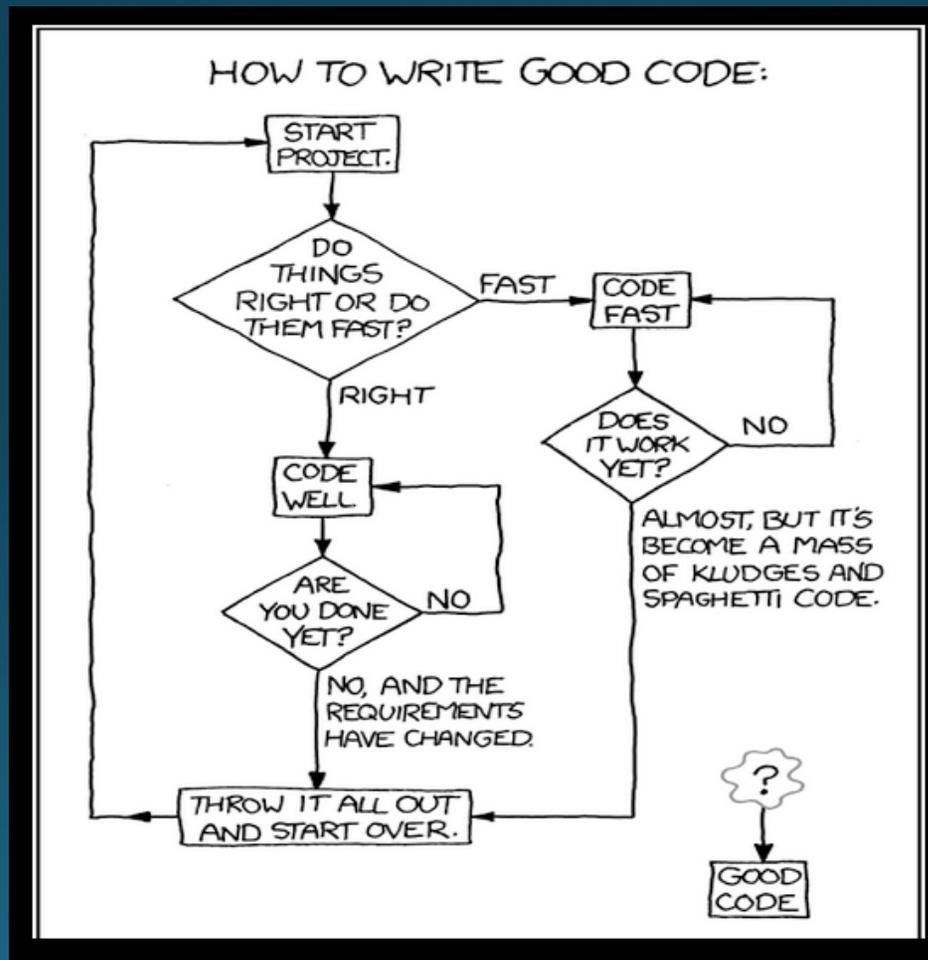
Code and Fix

- Little design, just start coding
 - Comes from naiveté - "This looks easy."
 - Schedule pressure - "It's due Monday!"
- Favorite method of Cowboy coders
- Q: Do we use this one at UCSD? Successfully?
 - Actually yes and yes*

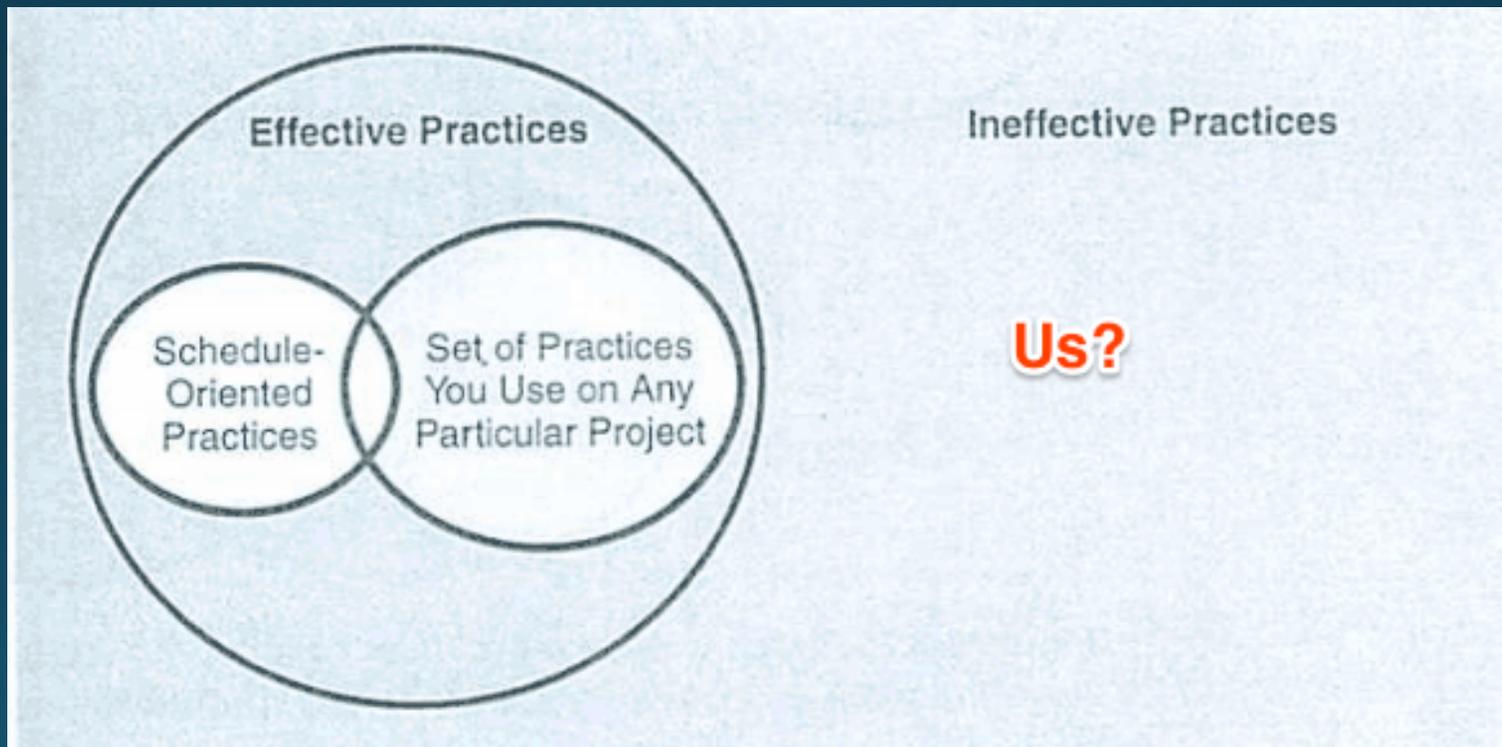
Cowboys are cool!?

- Code cowboys can be the hero sometimes
 - Freedom can inspire
 - No rules! - introduce new tools, langs, ...
 - Border crossings can be useful
 - Sometimes faster - no boss blockers
- Lot's of room for failure though

The Infinite Loop of Doom



We need to move to

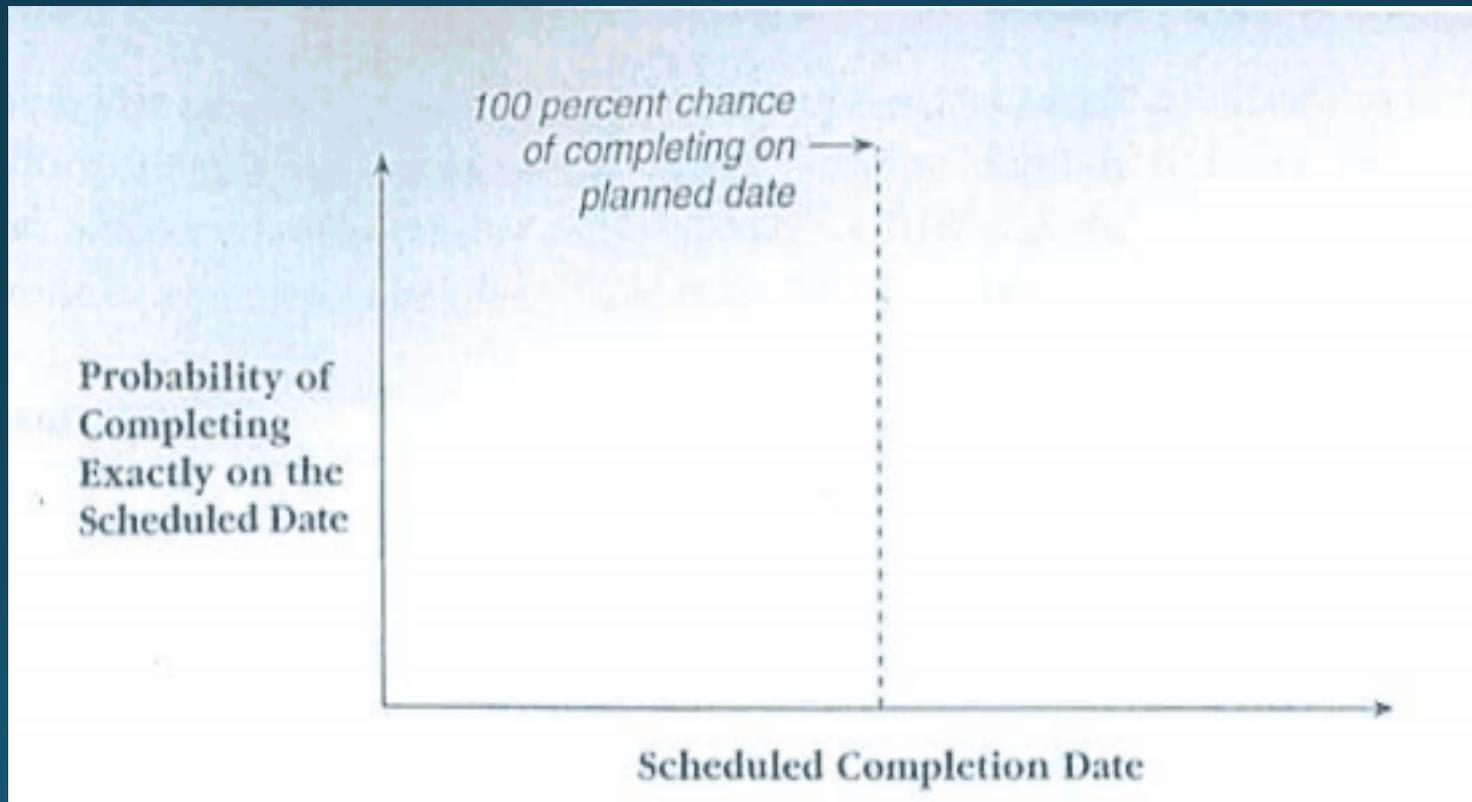


It's Done When It's Done

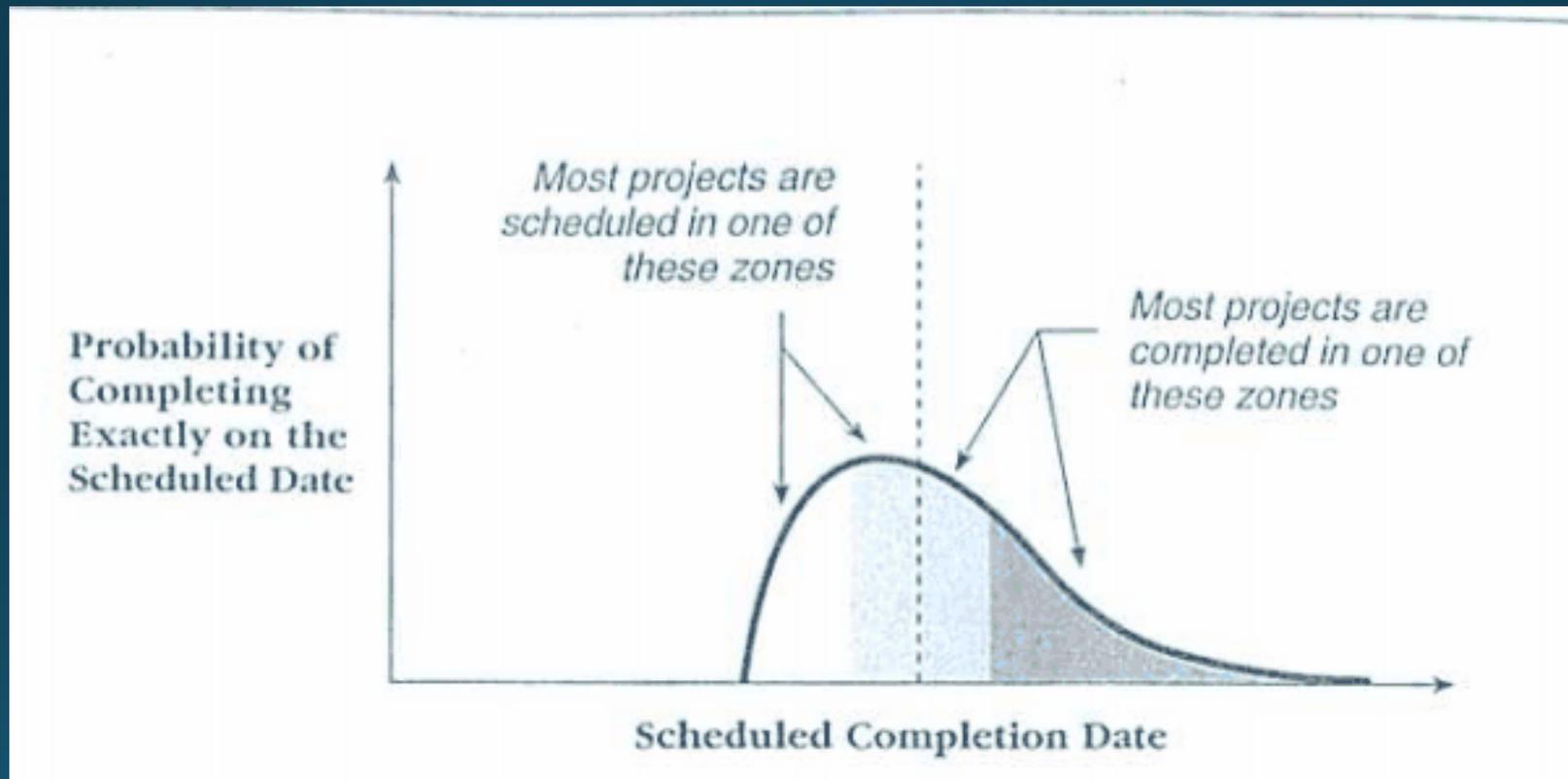
- Blizzard approach
 - Nice if you have the capital and buy-in from stakeholders and customers to act like this
- Can lead to laziness and vaporware
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duke_Nukem_Forever
- Generally a no schedule approach just won't work
 - ...but loved to see you be in the position to do this (nice work if you can get it!)

Scheduled Insanity

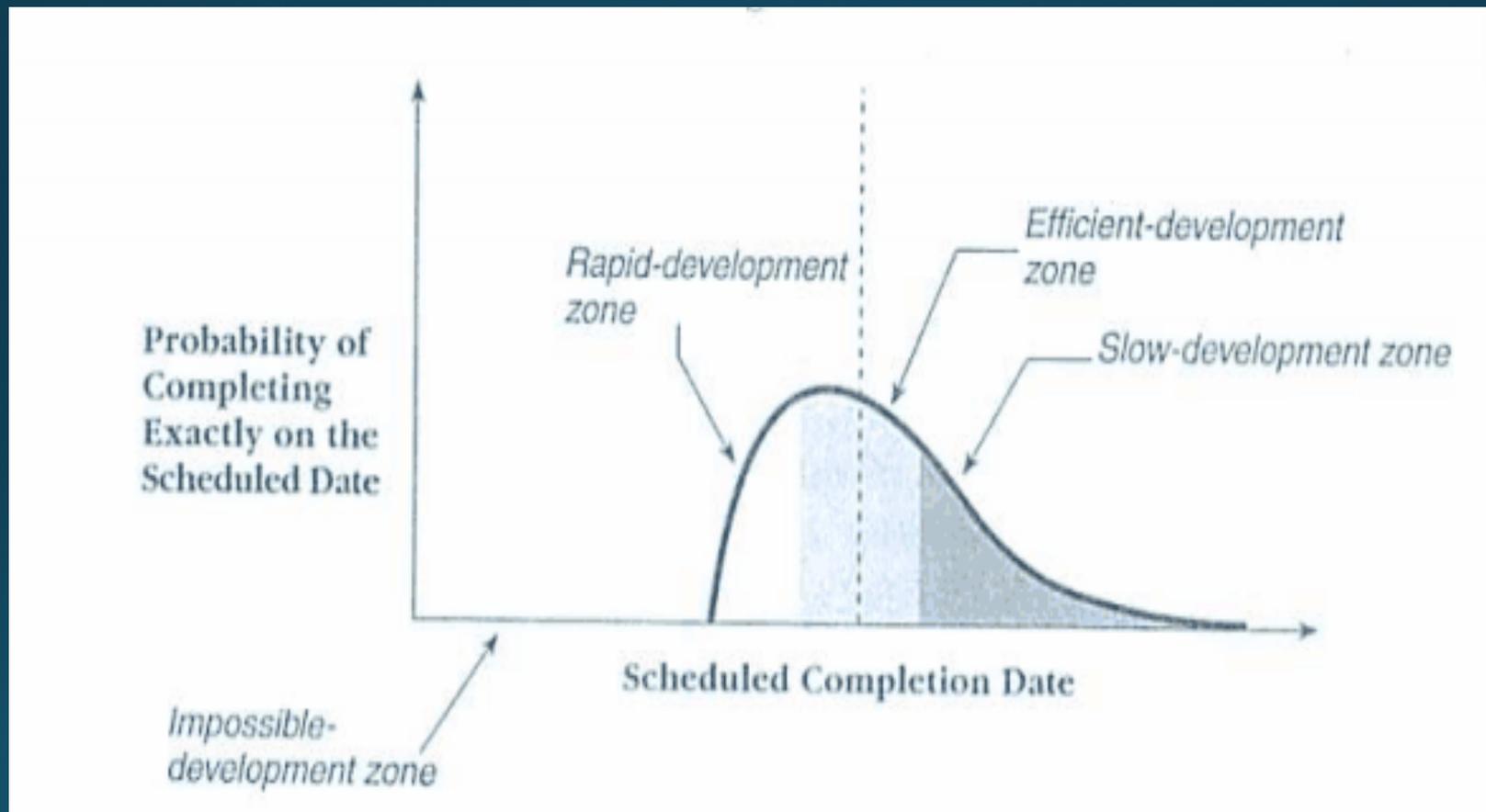
- It's never this...



More like this



What it means



Common Software Project Management Technique for Deadlines



Brook's Law

- Adding people to a late project doesn't generally deliver desired results
 - On-boarding time is generally larger than assumed
 - Communication path multiplication
 - We lack the shared hive mind to recover history and details necessary to be productive quick enough



Some people have called the book the bible of software engineering. I would agree with that in one respect: that is, everybody quotes it, some people read it, and a few people go by it.

(Fred Brooks)

Flavors of Approach

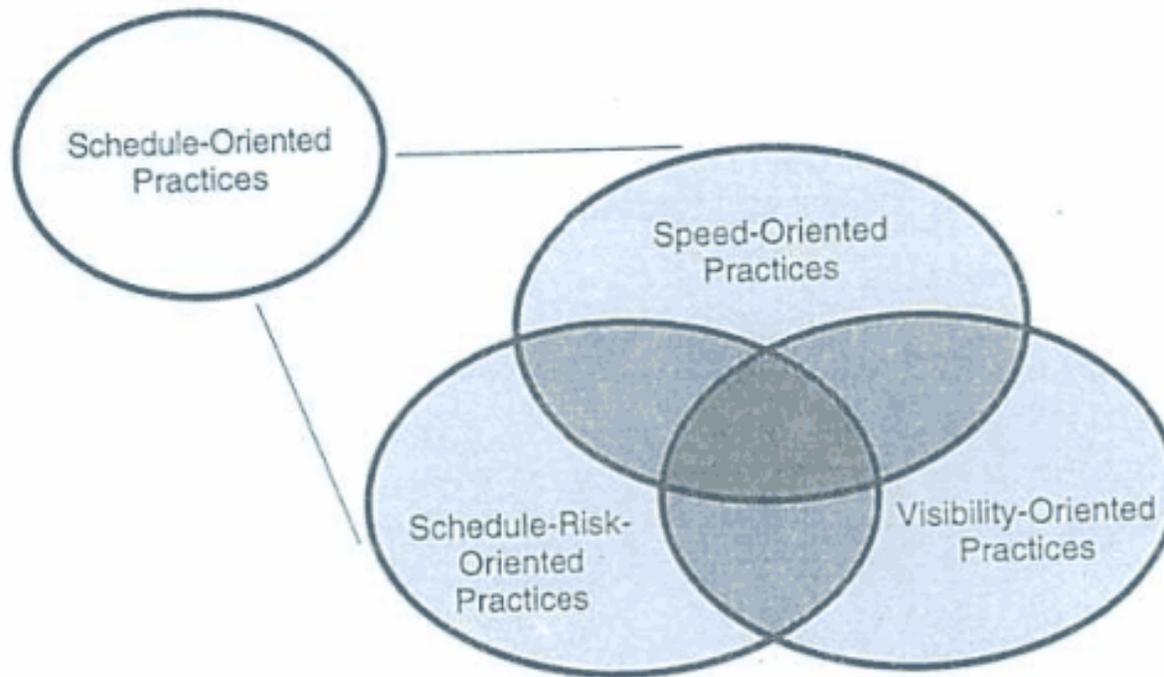
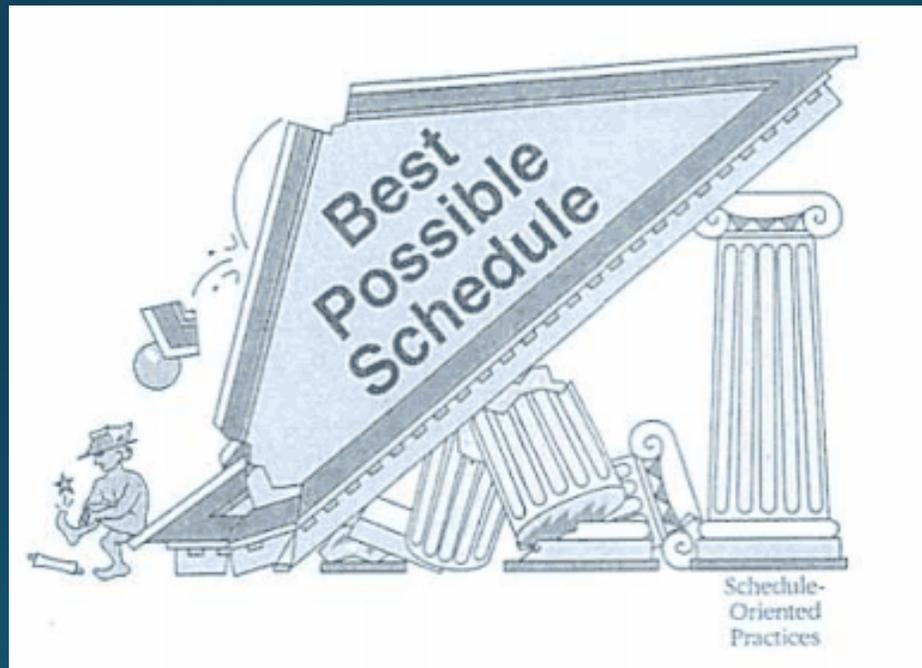


Figure 1-2. *Schedule-oriented practices come in three kinds: practices that enable you to develop faster, reduce schedule risk, and make your progress visible.*

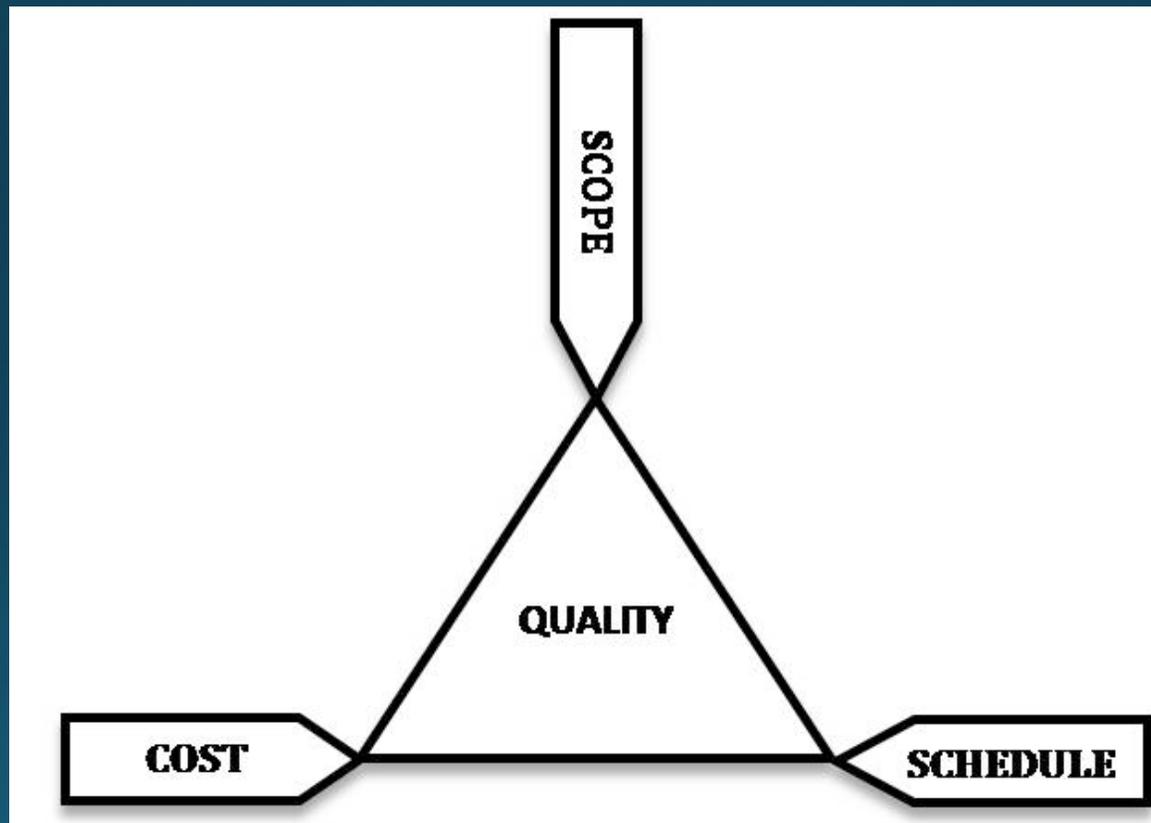
We Hope for This



Often Get...

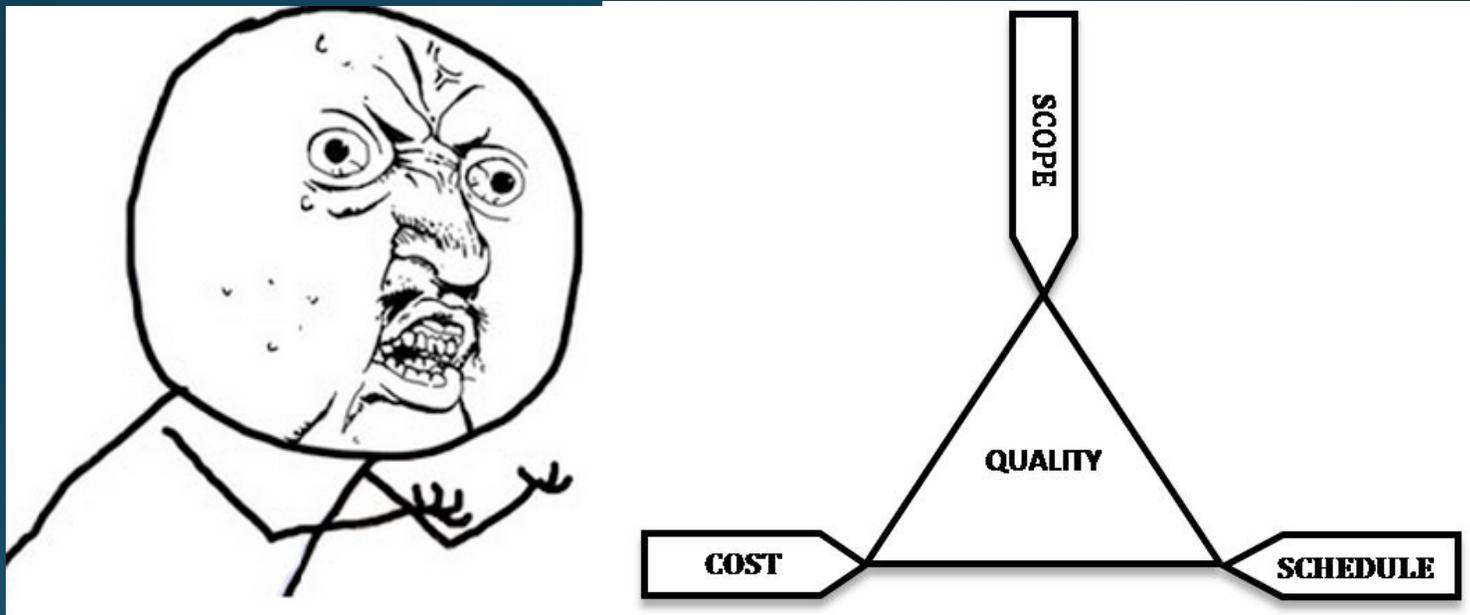


Tension Occurs



Pull a handle it effects other and of course interior

Yep for many...

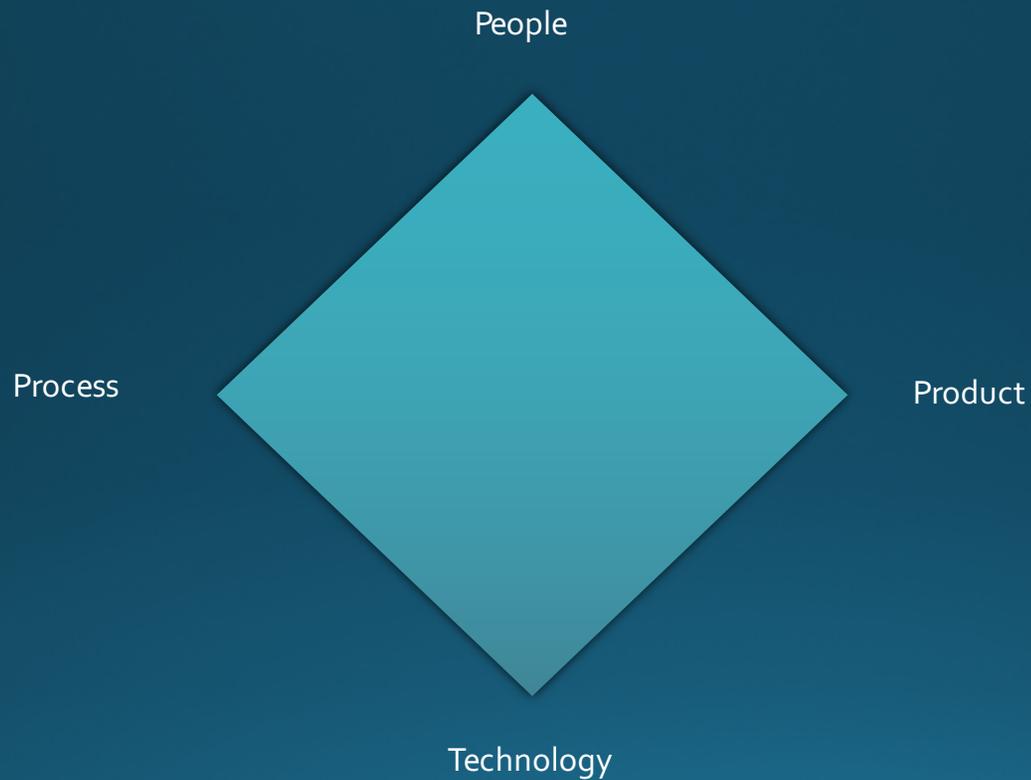


Y U No Give Me ALL!?

Professor's Favorite Word

- The Professor's favorite word that is the law above all law's in SE (or maybe life)
- There are always _____
- Magical thinking
 - "Middle Earth Engineering" – thinking there is one master solution
 - Gandalf (and me) says "You shall not pass!!!"

Tension Always Present



Easy Question I hope: Which might be the hardest to deal with?

Example Process Risks

- Bad schedules (overly optimistic mostly)
- Not enough risk management
- Not enough planning and design
- Inefficient front-end time squeezing back-end time
- Planning abandoned due to time pressure
- Reduced QA efforts
- Not enough transparency (Boss doesn't know enough)
- Many more variations

Example Product Risks

- Unrealistic expectations
- Too many requirements up-front
- Feature creep
- Competitor reactions
- Developer reactions

Example Tech Risks

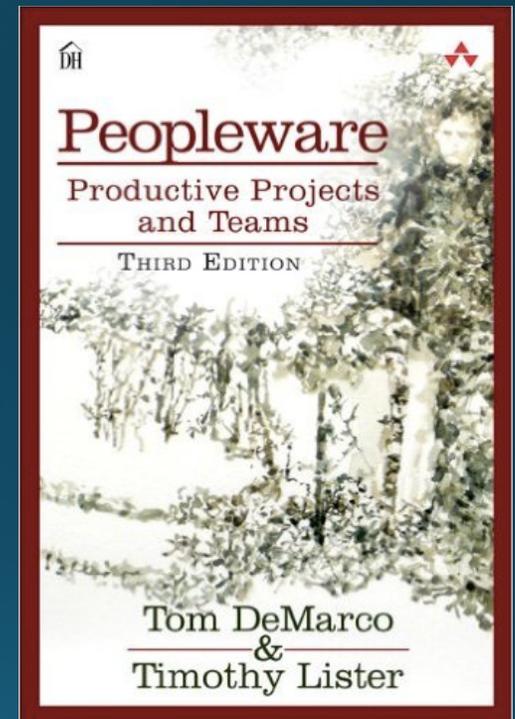
- Silver-bullet beliefs
 - Overestimating value of tooling or lang
- Tool switching costs
- Lack of appropriate tool availability or use
 - Source control, Bug tracking, Test tools, Automation/Deployment, etc.

Example People Risks

- Weak personnel
- Heroics
- Negative personalities
- Wishful thinking
- Politics
- Inappropriate work space
- Lack of buy-in, patrons, etc.

Peopleware

- Peopleware - a term describing role of people in dev and use of computer systems
 - productivity, teamwork, group dynamics, HCI, social effects, market effects
 - Plain old garden variety irrationality and inconsistency
- The biggest variable in your SE life, hard to learn this without experiencing it
- We've given you a flavor of this immediately in this class.



Team Organization Broad Concerns

- Should we all be equal partners?
- Should we all do same thing or different things?
- Should we have a lead developer with assistants?
 - Master chef, surgeon, etc.
 - Should the “big boss” just direct or work?

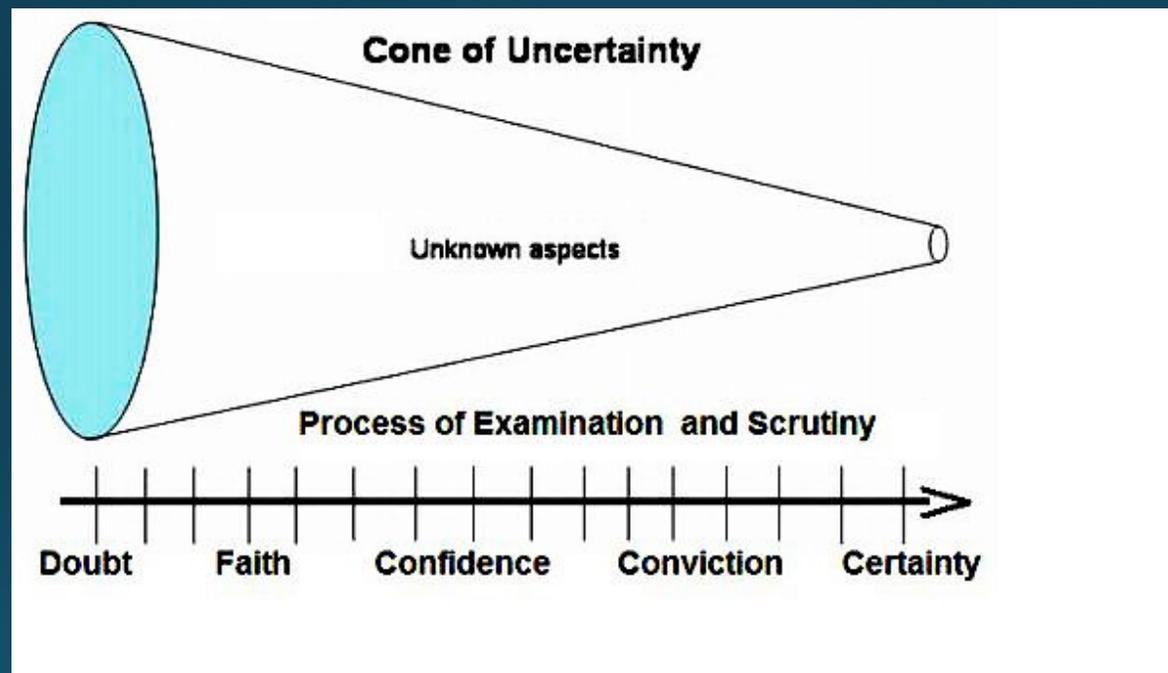
Yes lot's can go wrong

- Some of this can be learned
- Some of this truly must be experienced (sadly) even beyond the peopleware
 - At least know it is coming!
- Have realistic expectations for yourself and relative to others - "SE Nirvana is a myth"
 - Now let's see the two approach types

Big Design Upfront (BDUF)

- All these systems described are of the idea that we should do “Big Think” first
- Theory: If you big think up front and plan things out the investment will pay off
- Obvious Concern: Can we know what is not knowable?
- Obvious Concern: Time taken to plan may outweigh time taken to do or fix.

Facing the Cone of Uncertainty



- I like this one because it shows the general nature of the idea as opposed to some specific SE aspect to this point

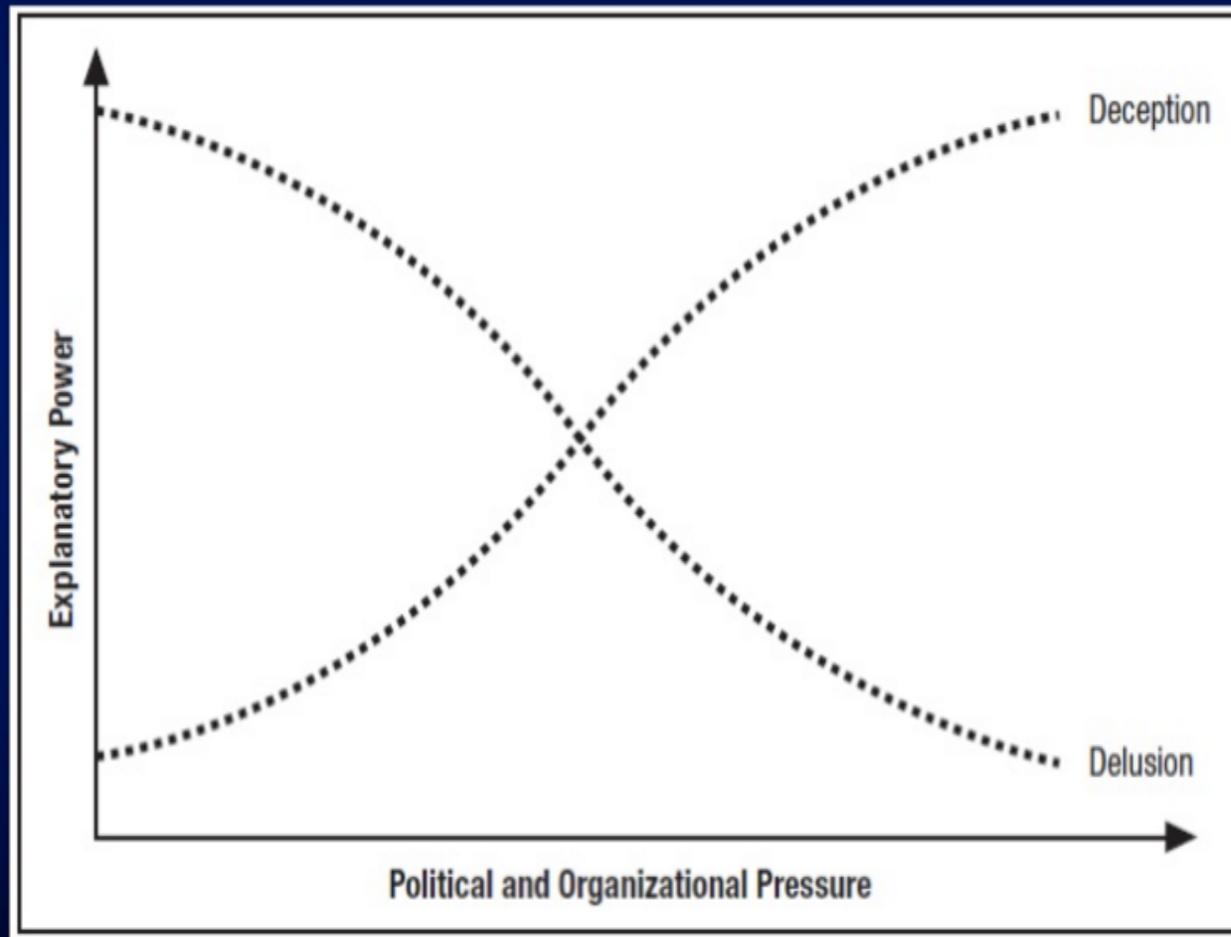
Facts #8 and #9

- Fact 8: One of the two most common cause of runaway projects is poor estimation
 - The other is changing requirements
- Fact 9 : Most software estimates are performed at the beginning of the life cycle. This makes sense until we realize that estimates are obtained before the requirements are defined and thus before the problem is understood. Thus estimation usually occurs at the wrong time
 - Solution? Spec phase / requirements phase with one budget and conclusion results in an another budget
 - Doesn't fit with know the answer now, cheapest bidder wins, etc. that we meet in real life. Again human nature for wanting things to not be as complicated as they tend to be leads to risk

Fact #10

- Fact 10: Software estimates generally made by the wrong people (not by the people who will build the software) so they operate with less info than they need for a quality estimate, often not knowing what they need to know
- Example: Joe bidding off Mark's plans
- Example: Peter nearly every class as a joke, not really

Cognitive bias vs. political behavior as cause of chronic underestimations



(Politics)

(Cognitive bias)

TABLE I
STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF SOFTWARE COST-ESTIMATION METHODS

Method	Strengths	Weaknesses
Algorithmic model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective, repeatable, analyzable formula • Efficient, good for sensitivity analysis • Objectivity calibrated to experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subjective inputs • Assessment of exceptional circumstances • Calibrated to past, not future
Expert judgment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of representativeness, interactions, exceptional circumstances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No better than participants • Biases, incomplete recall
Analogy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on representative experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representativeness of experience
Parkinson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correlates with some experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforces poor practice
Price to win	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often gets the contract 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally produces large overruns
Top-down	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System-level focus • Efficient 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less detailed basis • Less stable
Bottom-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More detailed basis • More stable • Fosters individual commitment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May overlook system-level costs • Requires more effort

Estimate Notes

- Software estimates are rarely adjusted as the project proceeds. Thus the estimates usually aren't corrected
 - Politics tends to get in the way!
- Estimates tend to be faulty, so not hitting time and \$ target shouldn't be expected. However we get crazy about it anyway
- There is often a disconnect between management and programmers. A project that failed to meet estimates might be deemed by management a failure, but by the tech workers the most successful project (for a variety of reasons)

Feasibility - Yes

- The answer to a feasibility study is almost always “yes”
- We tend to like qualified yes, since no is politically toxic.
 - “Yes it is possible, putting a man on the moon in 1968 was possible given the right amount of effort, \$ and TIME”
 - Need to make sure that No isn’t about attitude or insecurity but honest assessment. It is easy for the listener to rationalize and keep their delusions
 - Real Life: “The other guys said it can be done in 2 weeks for 2 thousand and you said it will be months and tens of thousands!!?”
- Prof: “Manned space flight to the moon using 1960s technology was feasible, near anything is feasible if the science and engineering supports it but is it reasonable to do and do you have commitment and money to do it?”

Which projects get done?

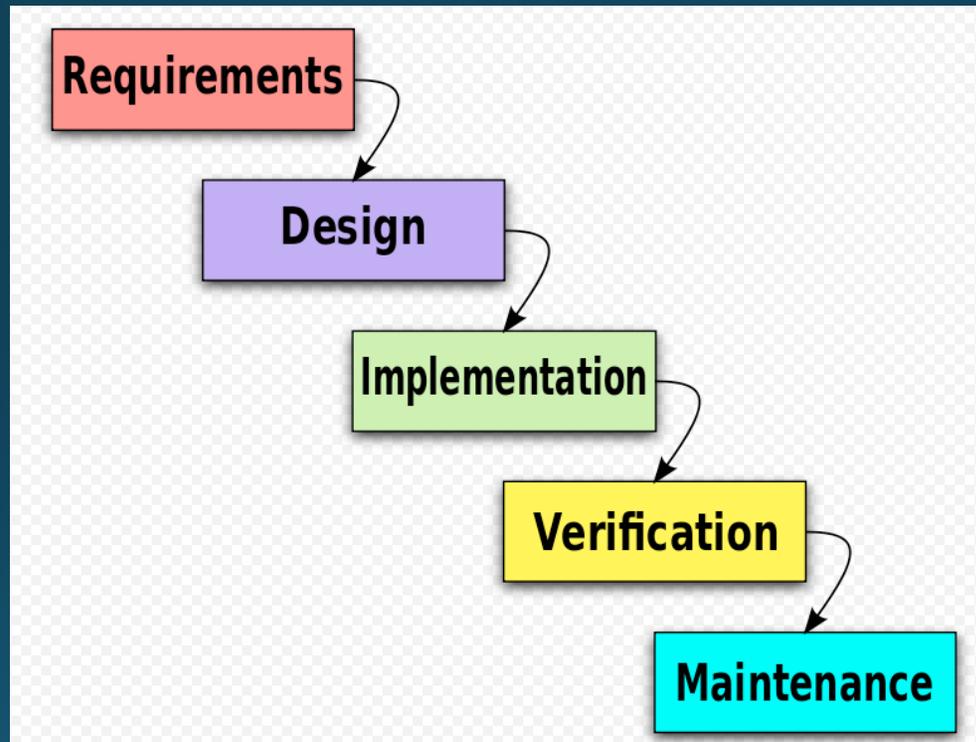
“We have found it isn’t necessarily the best ones, but those projects for which proponents best succeed in conjuring a fantasy world of underestimated costs, overestimated revenues, undervalued environmental impacts and overvalued regional development effects”

AGILE OR WATERFALL



THIS IS THE QUESTION

Waterfalls



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waterfall_model

Waterfalls

- Royce's Waterfall

1. Requirements Specification

2. Design

3. Construction aka "Coding"

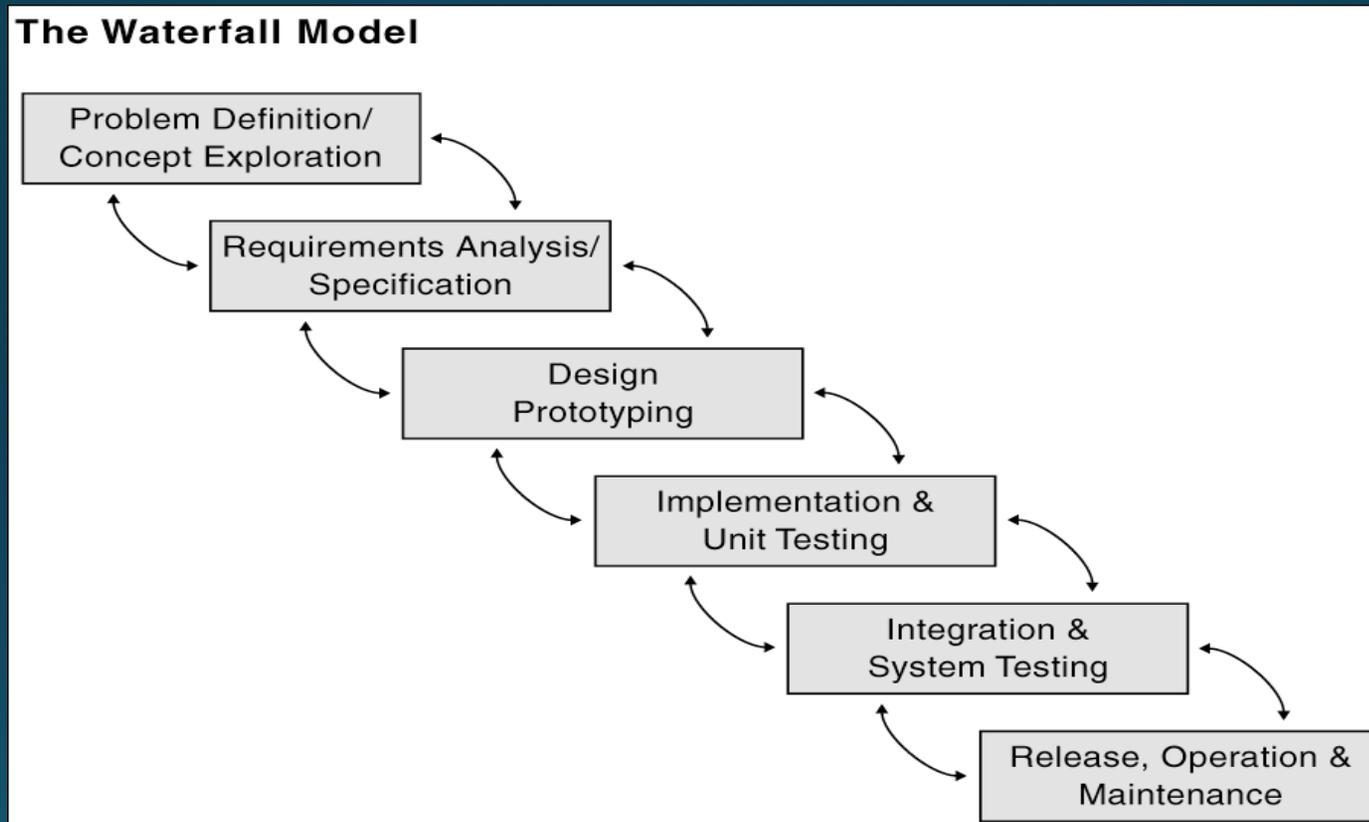
4. Integration

5. Testing and Debugging

6. Installation

7. Maintenance

Waterfalls



Web Site Engineering, Powell et al.

Waterfall Notes

- Number and name of steps is arbitrary
 - Unfortunately we will see discrete step boundaries not always clear
- Main point is a plan and document first before proceeding
 - Common methodology in “physical world”
 - Why?
 - In my experience with home building the idea of a pure waterfall is nonsense, there is plenty of “in field” modifications
 - Ike on the next slide says it all when it comes to plans!

A black and white photograph of Dwight D. Eisenhower, then Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force, in a military uniform with a peaked cap. He is standing in the center-left of the frame, looking towards a group of soldiers on the right. The soldiers are wearing M1 helmets and combat uniforms, some with gear. The background shows a crowd of more soldiers in a field setting.

**“IN PREPARING FOR BATTLE I HAVE ALWAYS
FOUND THAT PLANS ARE USELESS, BUT
PLANNING IS INDISPENSABLE.”**

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Waterfall Notes

- Yes it is simple to understand, that is the real reason I think it still works even in what you might consider in appropriate situations
 - It's a counter to the no process "make it up as we go along" and as such it is vast improvement
- Interestingly despite the agilistas thinking this feels right to those who cook, construct, etc. Maybe not it seems as if maybe they haven't seen the chaos in a kitchen or on a job site. So it might not be pure BTUF but at the very least ETUF

Towards Incrementalism

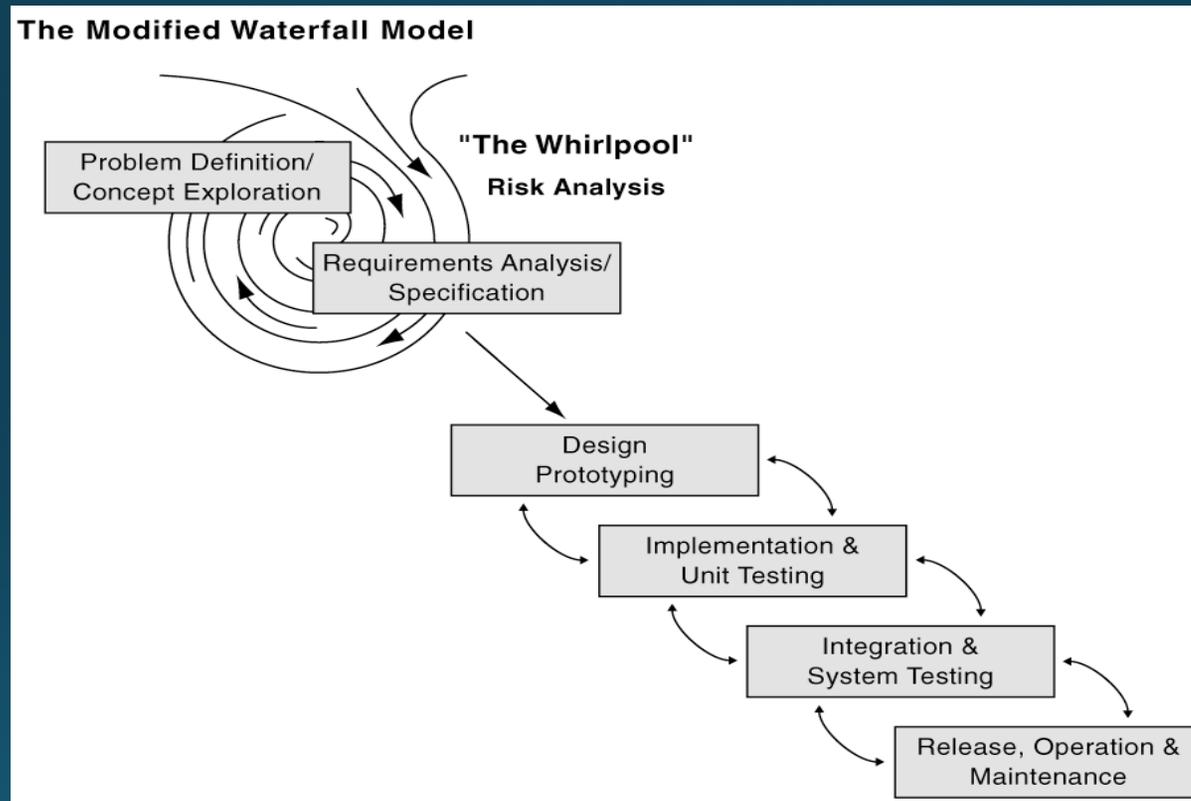
- Rough Design Up Front (RDUF) - plan enough to get going (or my EDUF)
 - What is enough? Temptation to start
- Clearly inching along seems safer than big plan on something with too many unknowns or just plain wrong
 - Unfortunately what happens if you inch your way into a corner?

Modified Waterfalls

- Generally there is concern about risk reduction and dealing with future info
 - Try to avoid jumping in and doing the wrong thing
 - Try to incorporate things you learn on the way to adjust project
- A real truth

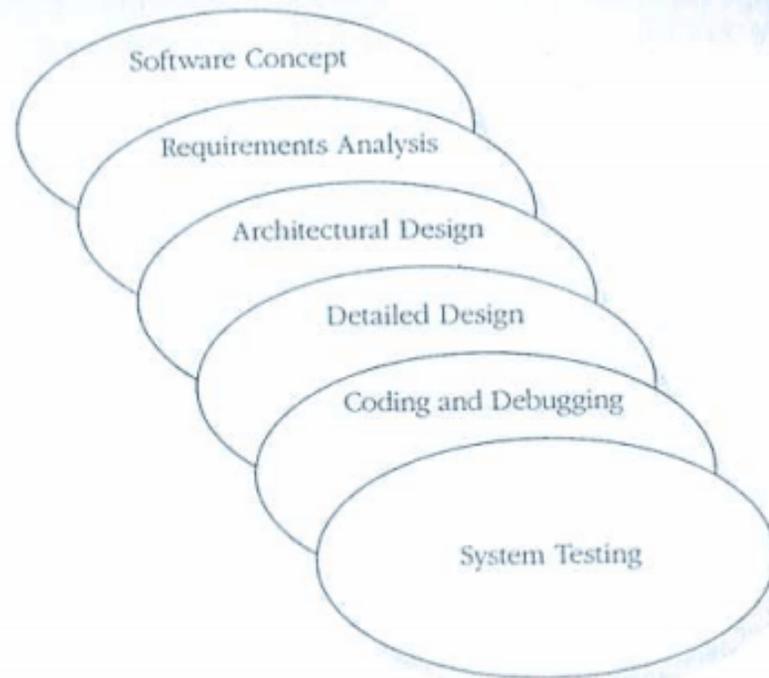
“You just don’t know what you don’t know until you know it.”

Modified Waterfall #1



- *Web Site Engineering* Powell et al.

Modified Waterfall #2



Source: Adapted from *Wicked Problems, Righteous Solutions* (DeGrace and Stahl 1990).

Figure 7-5. *The sashimi model. You can overcome some of the weaknesses of the waterfall model by overlapping its stages, but the approach creates new problems.*

Modified Waterfall #3

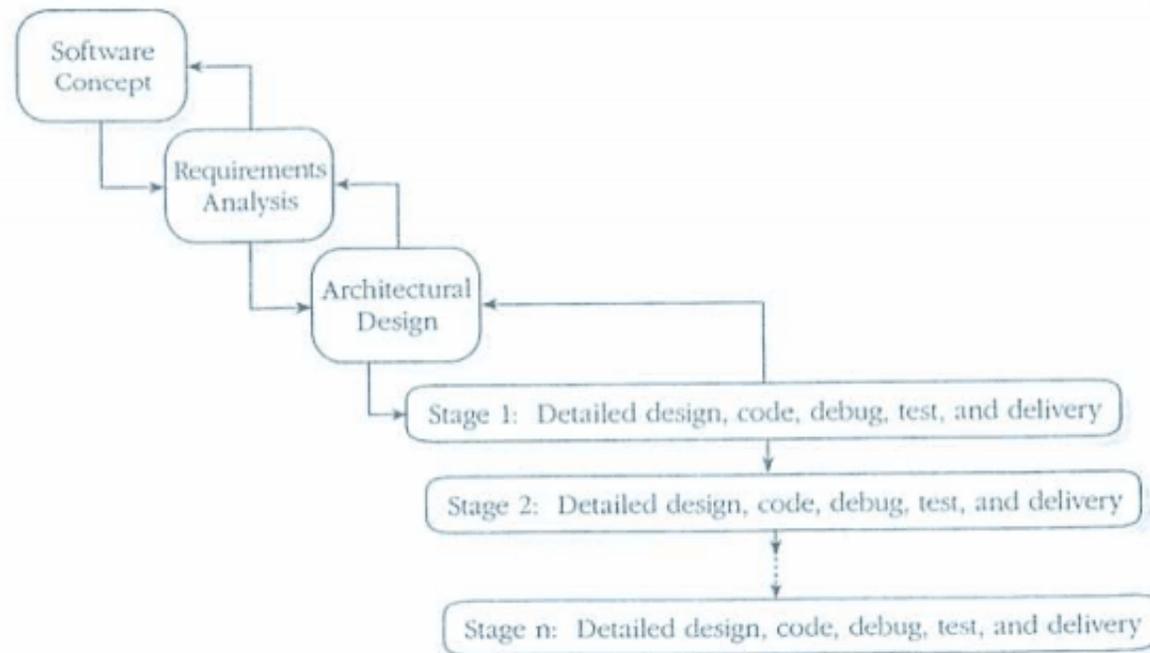
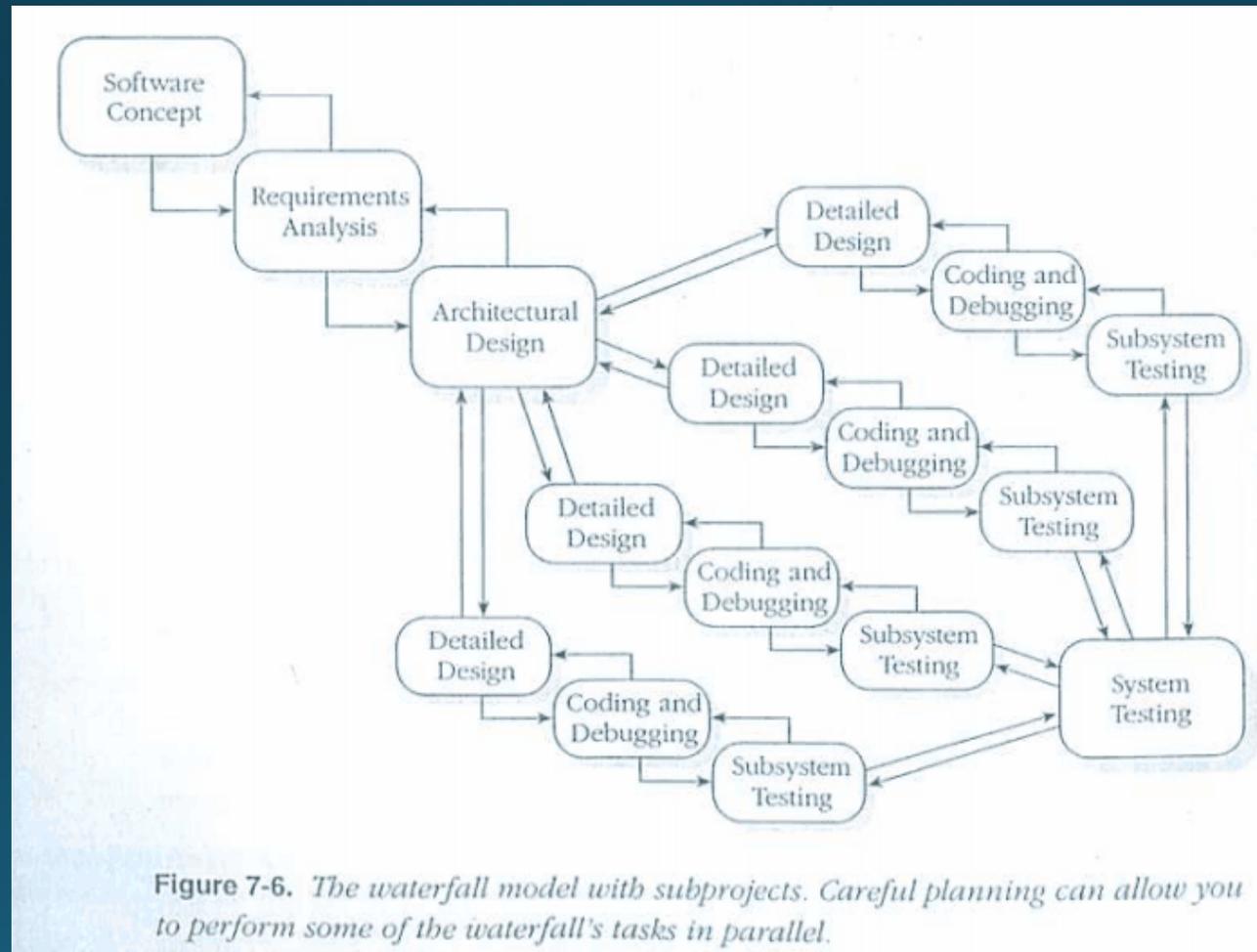


Figure 7-9. *Staged-delivery model. Staged delivery avoids the waterfall model's problem of no part of the system being done until all of it's done. Once you've finished design, you can implement and deliver the system in stages.*

Modified Waterfall #4



Realization

- It seems as we might want to do some exploration before we dive in
- We can adjust our goals, desires, approaches based upon what we find
- Is there a good way to do this in a guided manner?

Prototyping

- Evaluate an idea without full commitment
- UX in particular benefits greatly from prototyping
- Tempting thought - take a prototype and refine it to production quality
- Challenges
 - Boss: Pretty pixels on screen = near done

Prototype Tradeoffs

Pros

- Reduced time
- Reduce cost
- Better User Involvement
- Work out details and make pretty

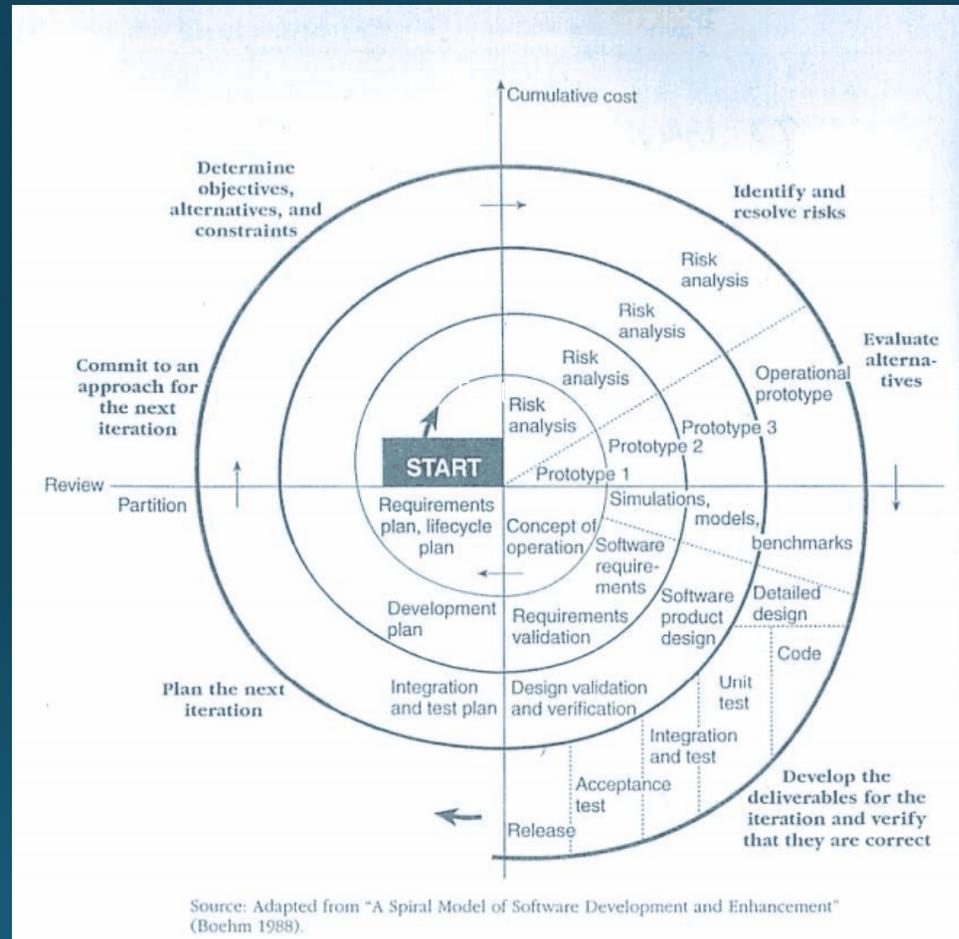
Cons

- User misunderstanding
- “Ugly kids”
- Longer time
- Bigger cost

Extreme Prototyping

- Static prototype
 - PSD Mock-ups and/or HTML mocks
 - Feedback and adjust
- Simulated service layer
 - Full HTML/CSS/JS with mock calls
 - Feedback and adjust
- Services implemented
 - Working app
 - Hope feedback changes focus on service layer after up front work

Spiral Model

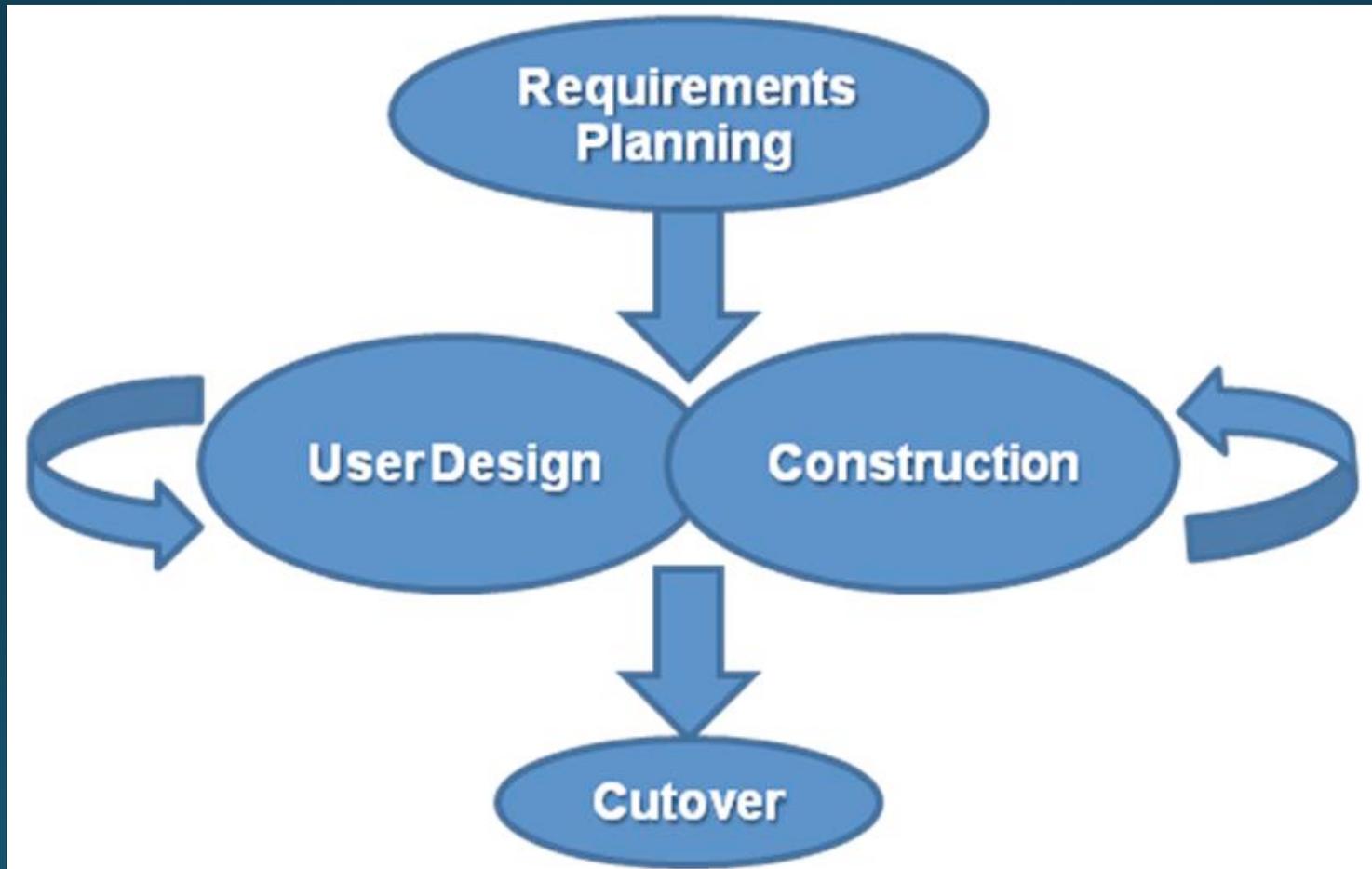


Iterative prototyping spiraling outward from small to big

Rapid Application Development

- Rapid Application Development (RAD) favors rapid prototyping over planning
- Like name aims for speed and tries to address the reality of change via iterative prototyping
- We change this name a lot over time: Agile, Extreme (XP), Lean, etc.

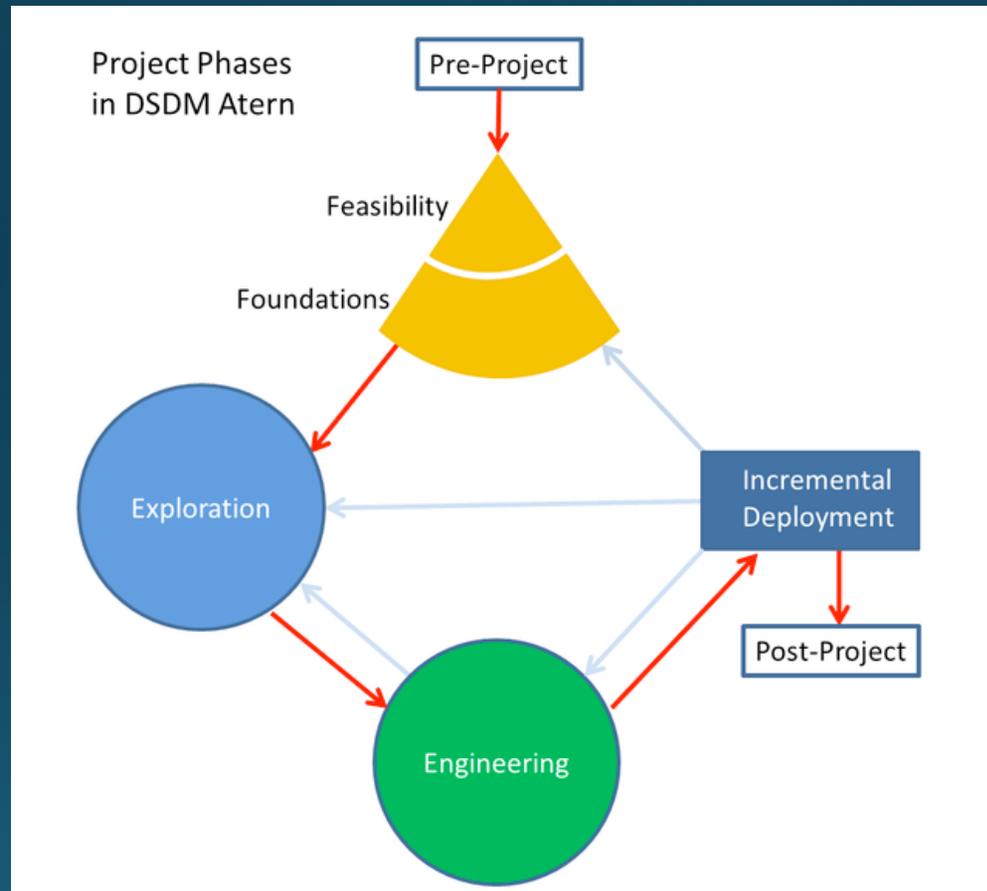
RAD Visualized



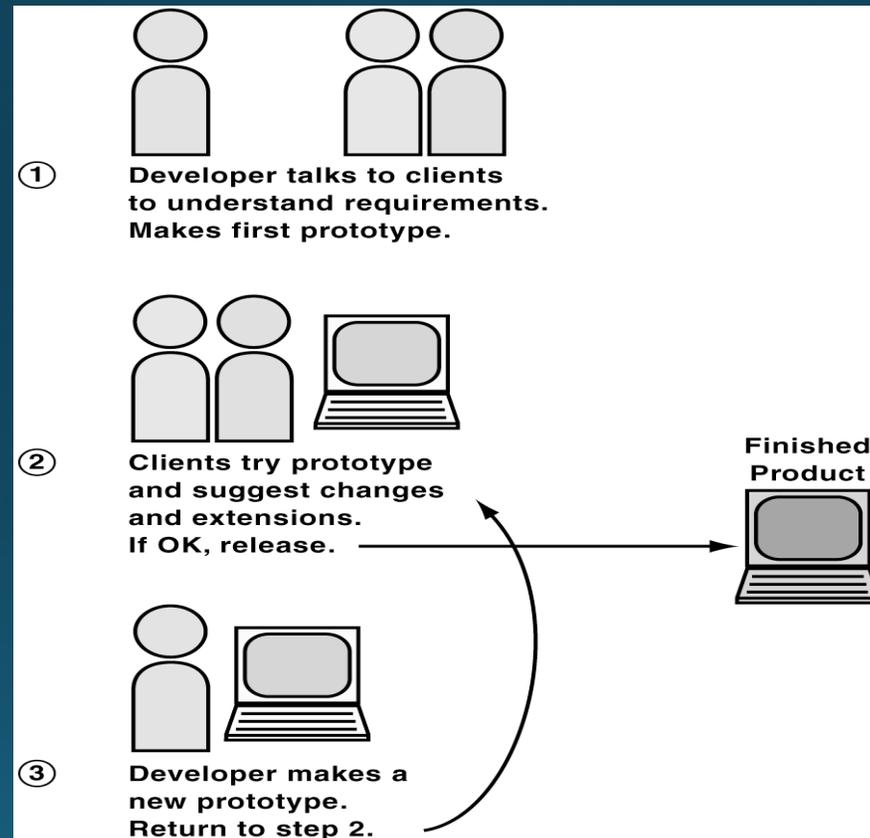
Joint Application Design

- JAD (Joint Application Design) - method to collect app requirements early on in iterative fashion with end users
 - Came from exploration in DSDM (Dynamic Systems Development Method) but is often applied wholesale to the whole project

DSDM Visualized



Sad JAD



Agile Manifesto

“We are uncovering better ways of development software by doing it and helping others do it. Through this work we have come to value:

- Individuals and interactions over process and tools
- Working software over comprehensive documentation
- Customer collaboration over contract negotiation
- Responding to change over following a plan

That is while value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.

12 Principles of Agile Manifesto

1. Customer Satisfaction by rapid delivery of software

2. Welcoming changing requirements even late in development

3. Working software is delivered frequently (weeks not months)

4. Working software is the principal measure of progress

5. Sustainable development, able to maintain a constant pace

6. Close, daily cooperation between business people and developers

7. Face-to-face conversation is the best form of communication (co-location)

8. Projects are built around motivated individuals, who should be trusted

9. Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design

10. Simplicity - the art of maximizing the amount of work not done - is essential

11. Self-organizing teams

12. Regular adaptation to changing circumstances

SCRUM!



Theory based on Rugby move!?

Scrum Details

- Scrum team size - 7 (really 7 ± 2)
 - Enough diversity for roles not too big
- Three scrum roles:
 1. product owner
 2. scrum master
 3. team member

Product Owner

- Directs team to maximize ROI on project
 - Pick valuable work, avoid less valuable
 - Control development order
- Records requirements in form of “user stories”
 - As a <type of user>, I want to <do something>, so that <some value is created>

Product Owner Role

- Holds product vision
- Represent biz interest
- Represent customer interest
- Balance these (I added this)
- Owns product backlog and prioritizes it
- Answers and owns team questions

Scrum Master

- Kind of the sub-boss (but they claim not)
- Serve as coach, champion, facilitator, road-block remover, etc.
- Primary job is keep team efficient

Scrum Master Role

- Expert in all thing scrum
- Coach (and cheerleader)
- Impediment remover
- Facilitator
- Politician? (I added this)

Team Member

- Teams are self-organizing (people can switch roles, do many, etc.)
 - Team members get to pick work
 - Team members may not be homogenous and have specialities or they may be more interchangeable
- Team members ~~do the work~~ get things done

Team Member Role

- Responsible for completing user stories to incrementally improve product
- Self-organizes to get work done
- Creates and owns estimates
- Owns the how to do the work decision

Product Backlog

- Cumulative ordered list of desired deliverables of the product
 - Features, fixes, docs, etc.
- Should be ordered in priority
- Top items tend to be detailed (ex. Add underlining button) and bottom items are more amorphous (ex. Make drawing routine faster)

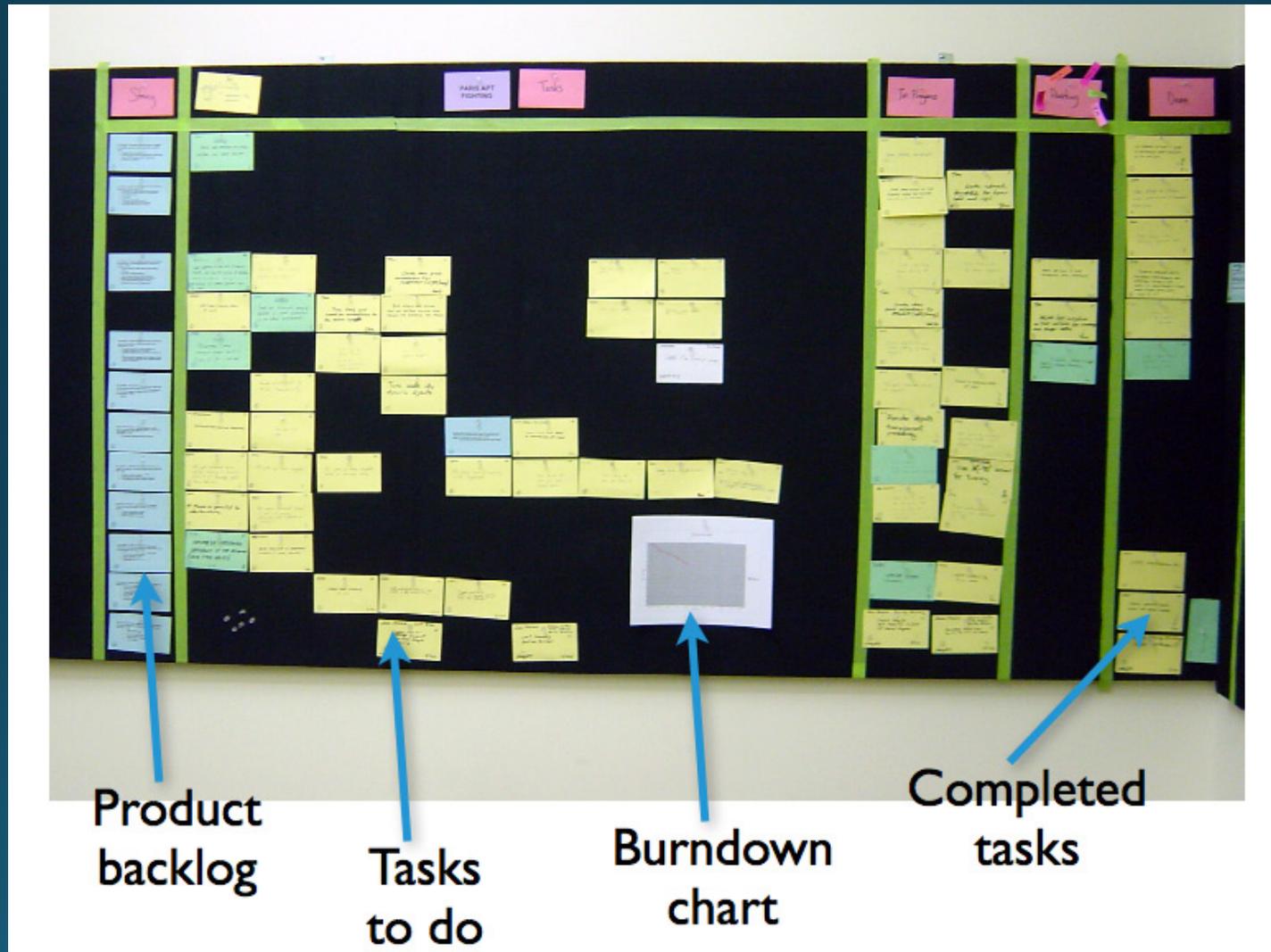
Prioritization of ideas

- There is nothing new here
- We try to formalize the process, but this trade-off effort is part of our famous triangle of features, time, cost
- Our choice of what makes sense is often quite reactive and inconsistent
- Many attempts are made to bring some order to this VERY important decision

MoSCoW Method* Not in Agile or Is It?

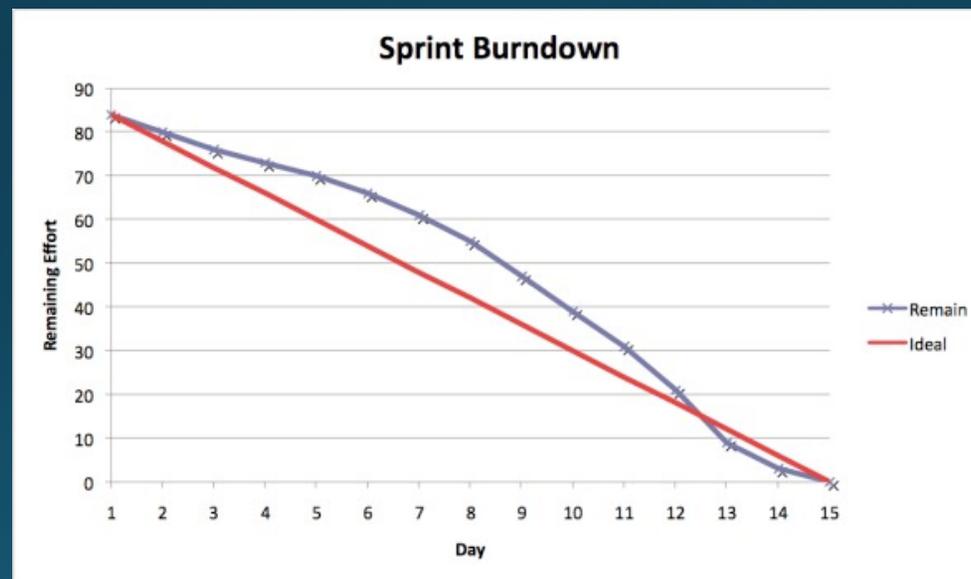
- M - Must: Requirement that must be in final solution
 - MUST - Minimum Usable SubseT
- S - Should: High priority item that should be in final solution
- C - Could: Desirable item but not mandatory
- W - Won't: Item agreed not to be done

Post-It Time!?

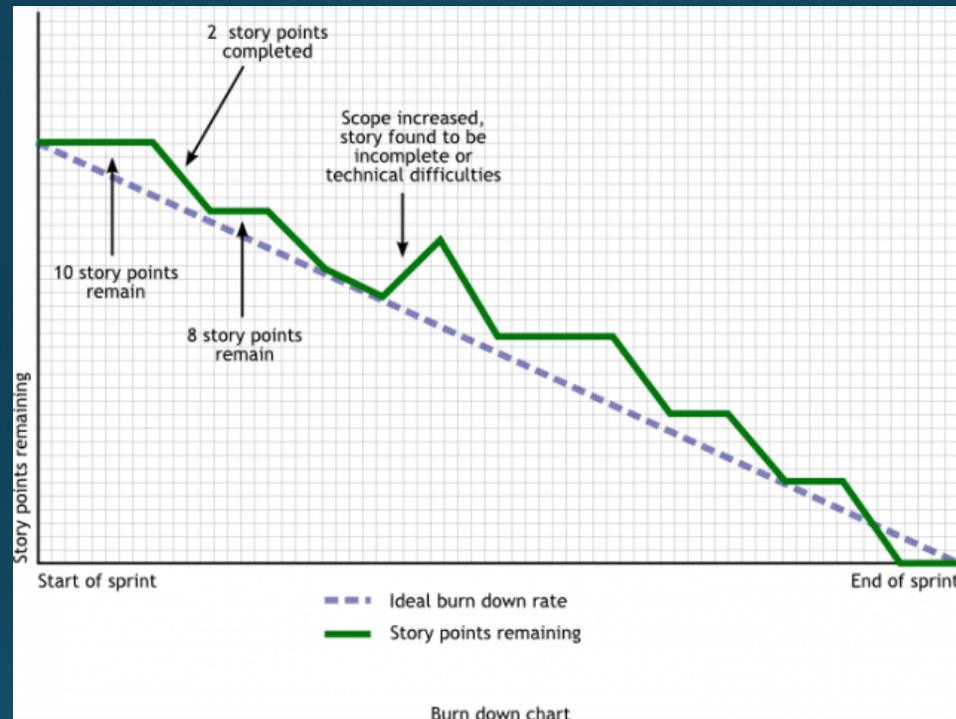


Burn Down Chart

- A burn down chart plots work left to do versus time.

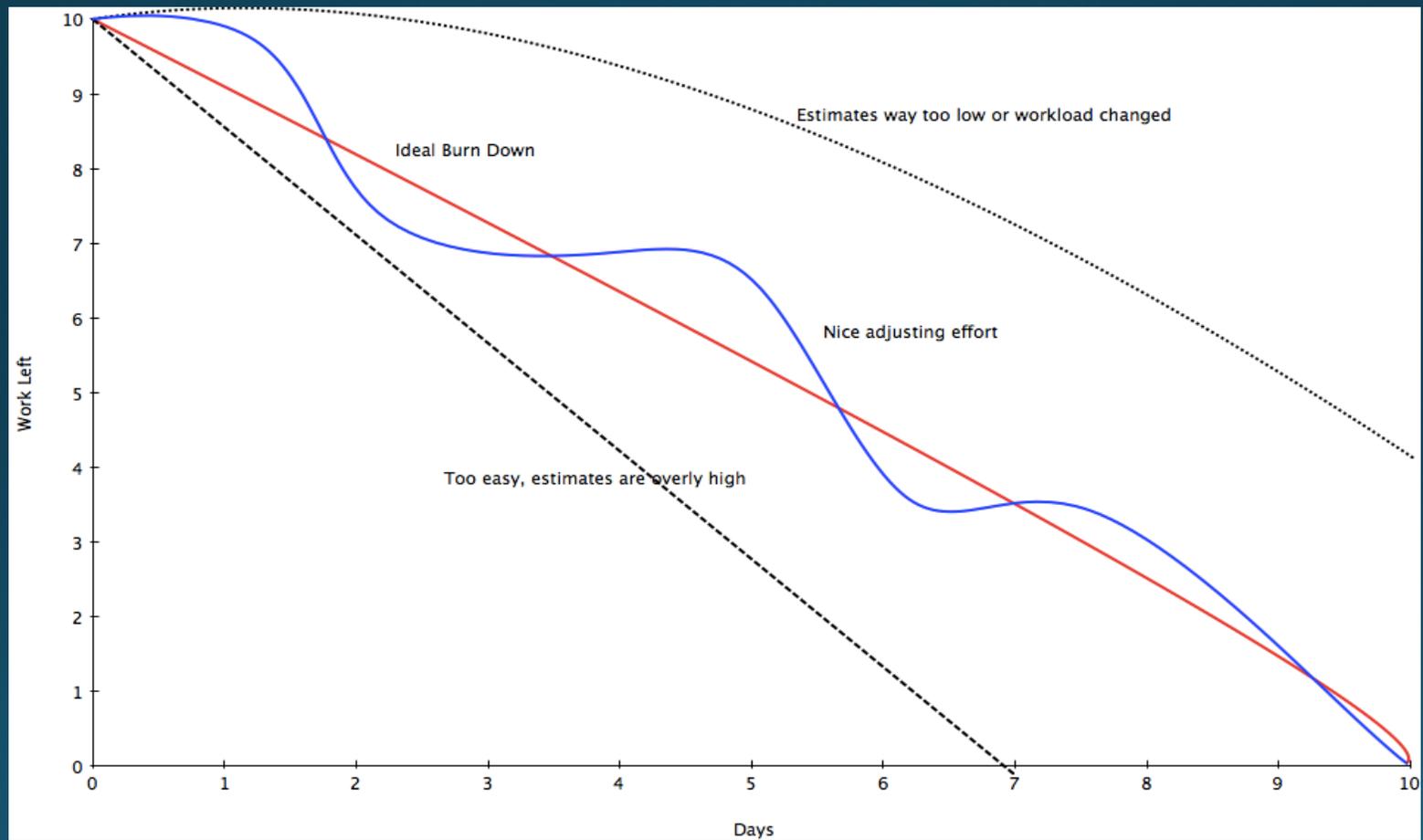


Note - Burn Down Chart

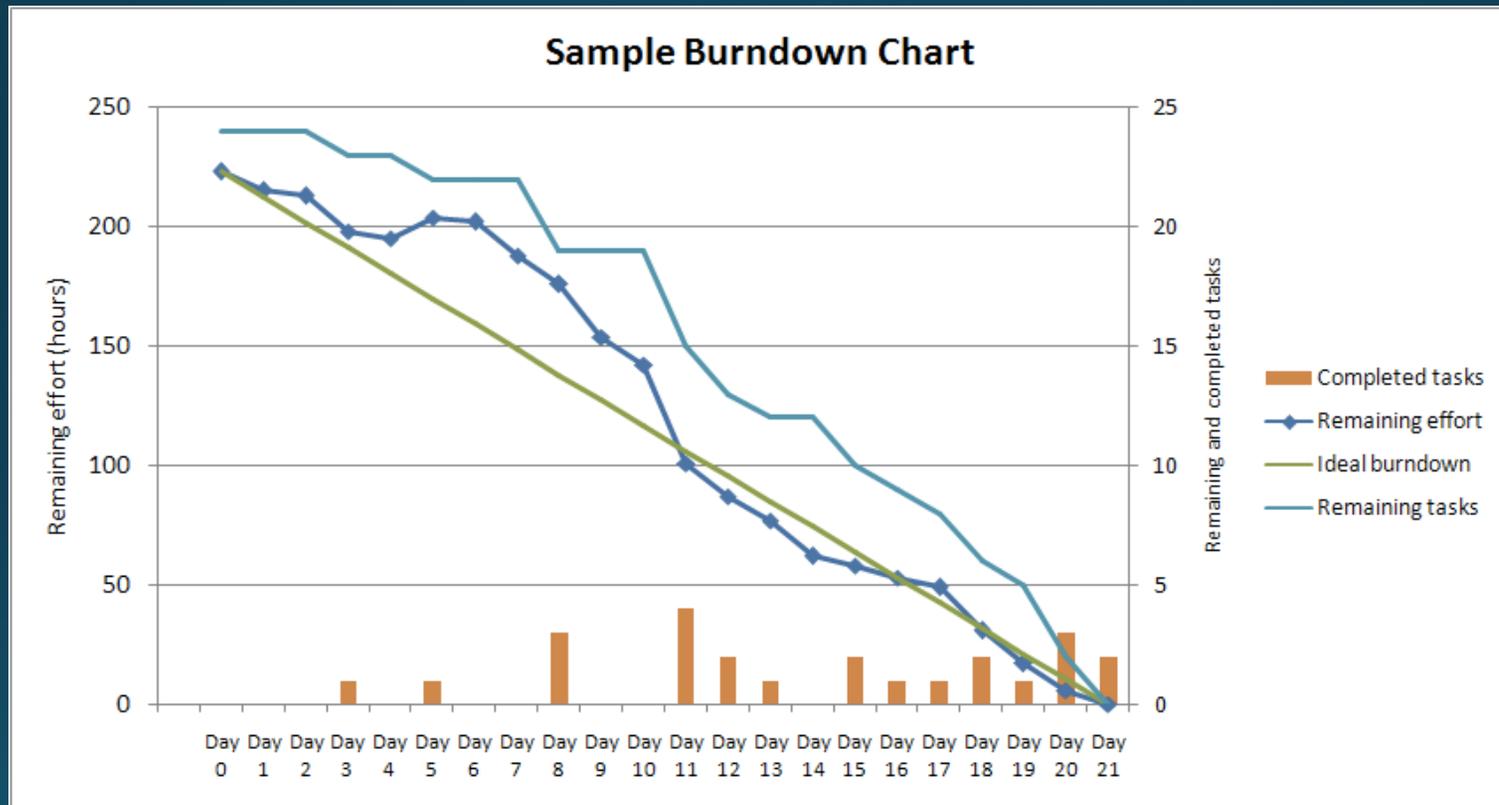


- Q: Are we getting closer?
- Helps keep you going running “1yard plays”
- Note all the examples show charts like this ... slightly right ward and then magically leftward at the sprint end...hmmmm

Burn Down Ranges



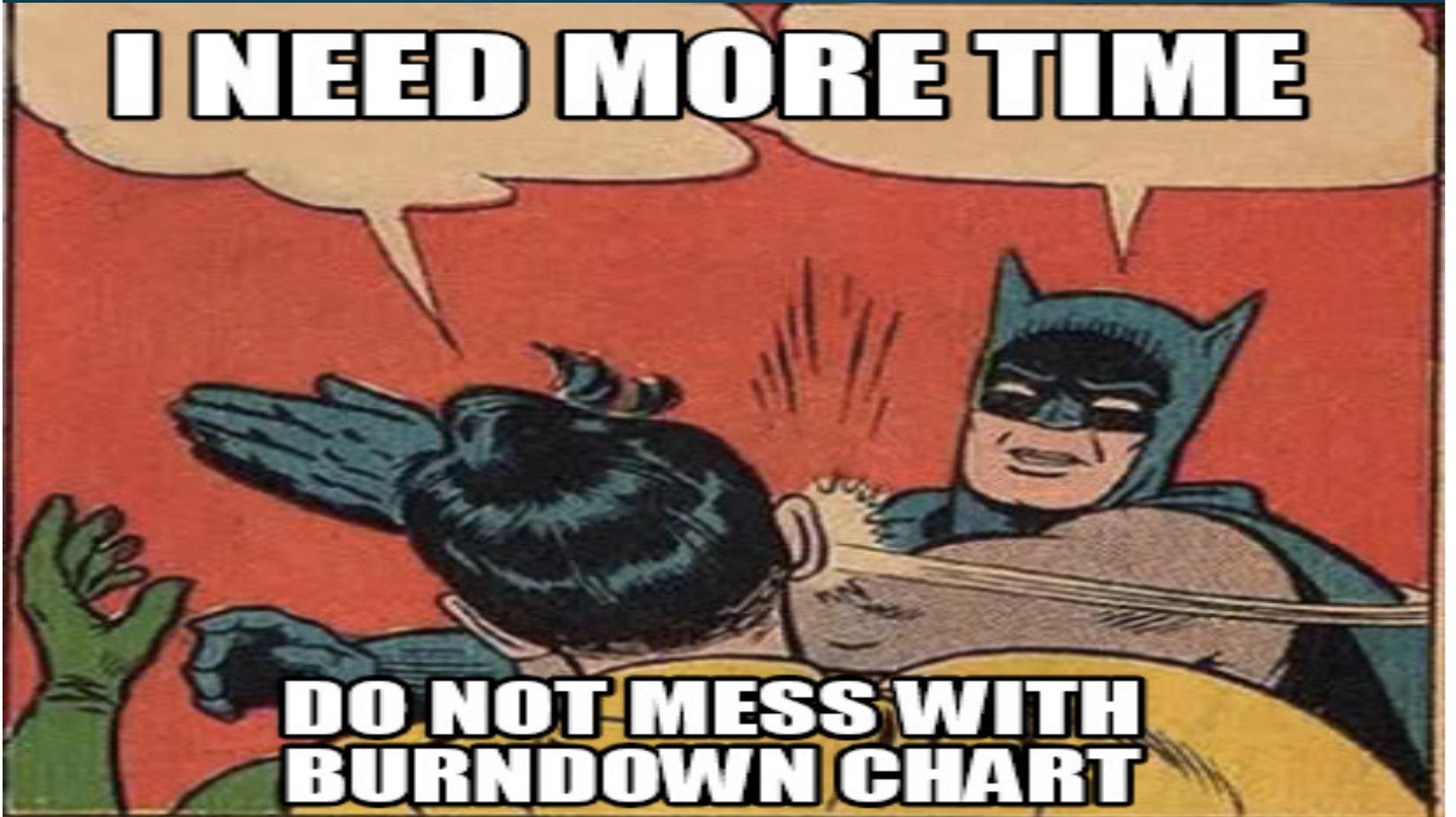
Burning More Complexity In



What's the point unless you are underserved by your BD chart?

I NEED MORE TIME

**DO NOT MESS WITH
BURNDOWN CHART**



Iteration Design

- Don't make them too long
 - 1 week, 2 week, 3 week at outside
 - Short length helps you deal with change so you can switch focus if something comes up the next iteration
 - Progress of completing an iteration keeps us motivated
- Keep the iteration content in balance
 - Not just bugs, but features too for example
 - Variety keeps the interest up

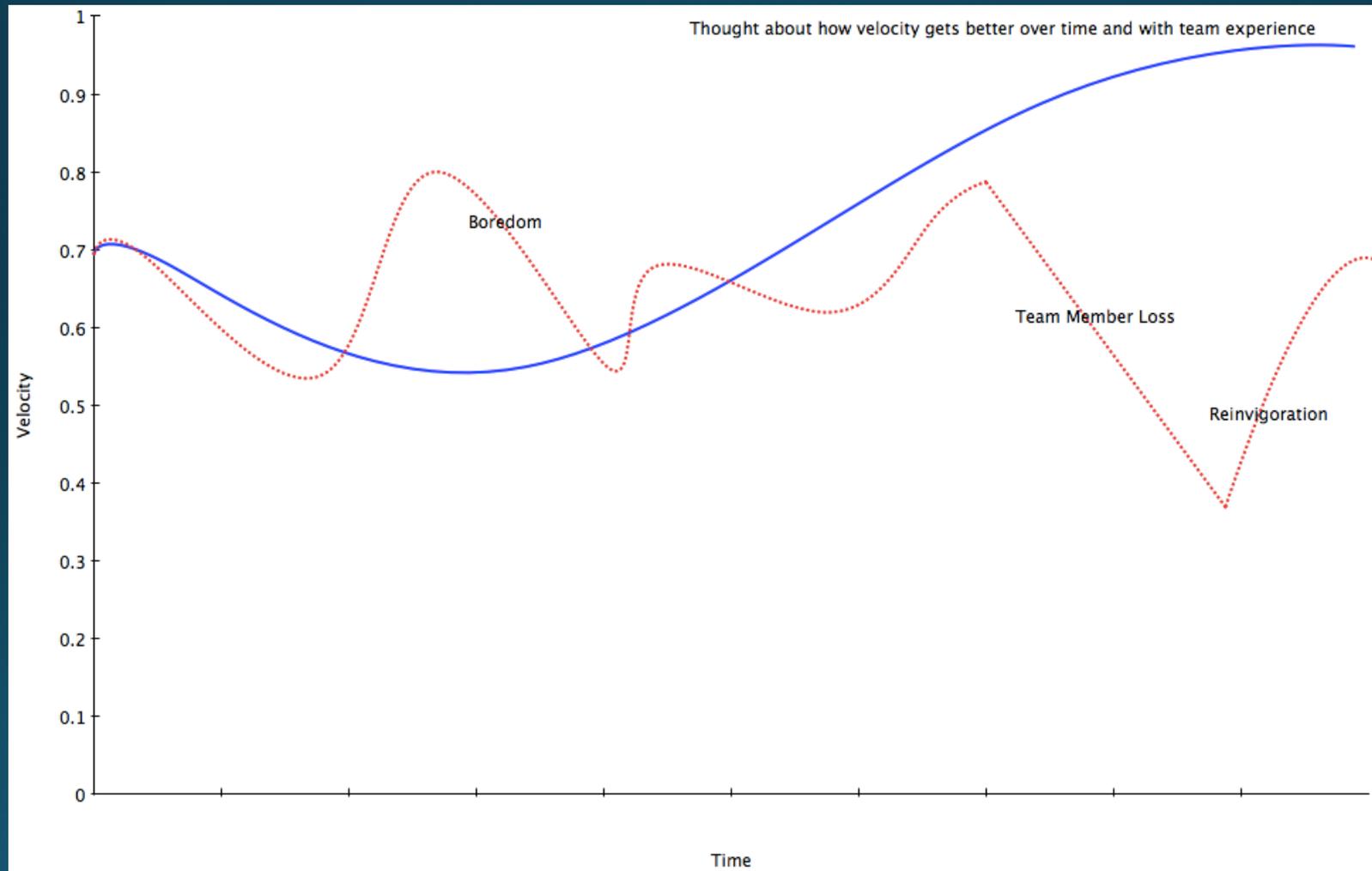
The Need to Account for Velocity

- Given X days, some value X-O Is how much is actually spent on work
 - O for overhead maybe? Whatever the point there is some sense that you can't have perfect days
- Maximum productivity as we know is a myth
- Novice Programmers schedule utopian days
- Experienced Programmers schedule in real world days

Velocity

- Some factor that indicates what % of time is actually working during a sprint
- Commonly 0.7 is used as a starting velocity value and we adjust it as we move along to account for reality
- Example:
 - January -> 31 days -> 20 work days actually 19 days (MLK)
 - Use 0.7 velocity and you get 14 work days to schedule!
 - The extra 5 days we can consider slack

Velocity Changes Over Time



Accepting Reality

- Ultimate Goal: Always tell customers and other stake holders what you know actually can be done as opposed to just what they want to hear
- Rule: Balance what customer wants \approx what can be done
 - Degree of equality is related to customer reasonableness and your ability to be brutally honest with the customer
- If rule is out of balance then either the customer is going to be unhappy, the dev unhappy/over worked or both

SCOTTY SAYS ENGINEERS

**SHOULD UNDERPROMISE
AND ALWAYS DELIVER**

User Stories and Tasks

- Users stories != Tasks typically
- A User Story might be made of 1 to n tasks
- Each task should be a piece of work for a single developer and come with an estimate
- Tasks should be no smaller than .5 (4hrs) and 5 days (20hrs) assuming no velocity built in

User Story & Tasks Example

- User Story – Estimate 9
- Story is composed of 4 tasks
 - Task 1 – Estimate 2
 - Task 2 – Estimate 5
 - Task 3 – Estimate 3
 - Task 4 – Estimate 1
- Task estimate = 11 \neq 9 the original story estimate
- Now we should go back and adjust our user story to match the cumulative task estimates

Tooling Example

The screenshot displays the Trello Development board interface. The top navigation bar includes the Trello logo, a search bar, a Help icon, and a user profile icon. The board is titled "Trello Development" and is set to "Public". The board is organized into columns representing different stages of development:

- Ideas:** A vertical list of cards including "What can you expect from this board?", "Time Tracking", "More labels / Tags", "Assign people and due dates to specific checklist items.", "Sorting a list by vote, date, label, alphabetically, etc.", "Dependencies Between Cards", "CSV or Other Export", "Cards live on multiple boards", "Board delete", "Board Chat", "Have a card represent a board.", "List delete", and "Multi-select".
- Known Issues:** Cards such as "Smooth resume on network reconnect" and "Google Drive login is independent of Trello account Google login".
- Next Up:** Cards like "Multiple log-in credentials", "Better boards page", "Search Comments", "Can't search text in checklist items", and "Can't search cards in Closed Boards".
- In Progress:** A card titled "Infrastructure and Performance Push".
- Testing:** A card titled "Trello for Android tablets and Kindle Fire HD" with a photo of a tablet.
- Live (9/18):** Cards for "Custom board background colors" and "Card Stickers".

Each card displays a title, a description, and a set of icons representing votes and comments.

<http://www.trello.com>

Tooling Example

The screenshot displays the Pivotal Tracker interface for the project 'ZurmoCRM (Public)'. The interface is divided into two main sections: 'CURRENT' and 'BACKLOG'.

CURRENT View: Shows 105 items as of 30 Sep. The progress is 0 of 287 points. Items include:

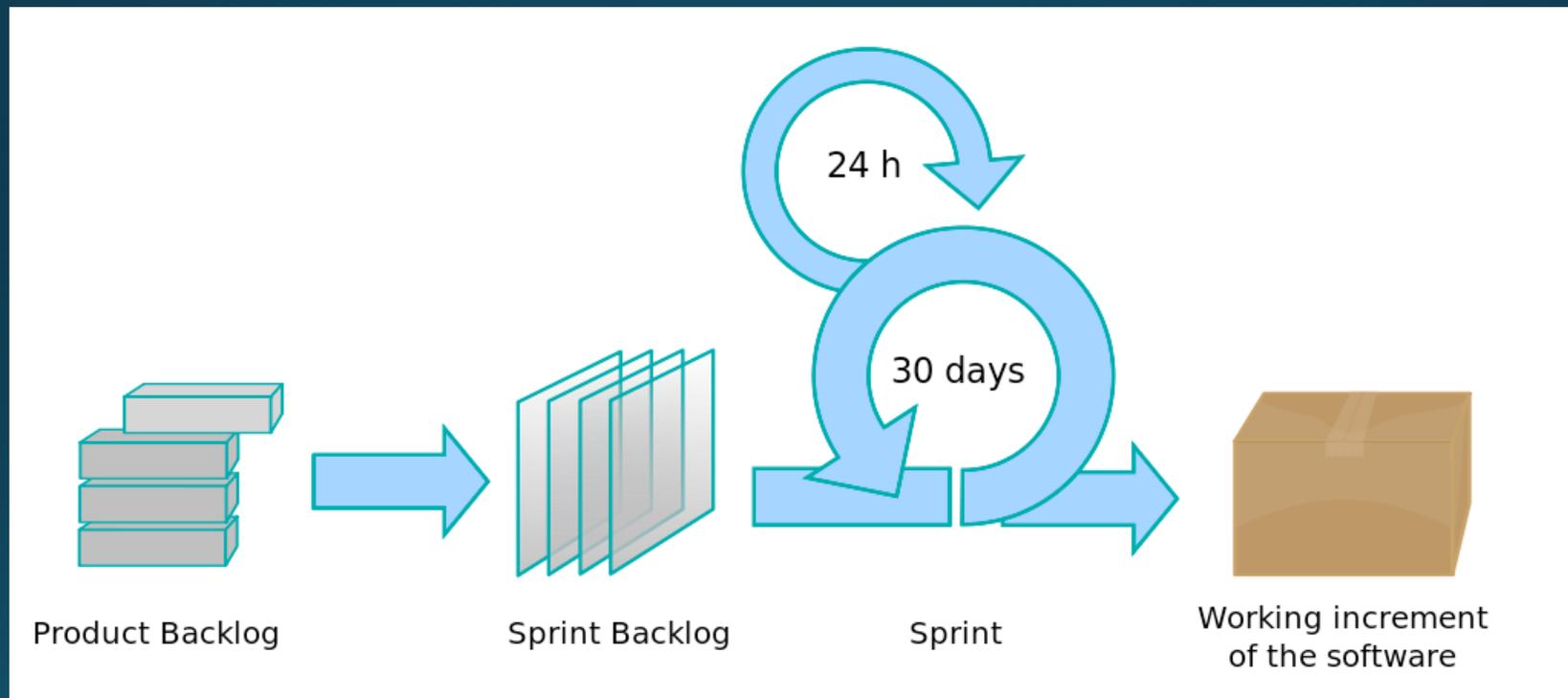
- 2.2.5 Bug with matrix reports not exporting all data (SP)
- 2.5, marketing Review messages (LA)
- 2.2.5 Workflow bug - Email template issue with attachments (SP)
- 2.2.5 Bug with default value of picklist fields in import mapping screen clearing (SP)
- 2.2.5, ramp-up change @zurmoalerts.com to be configurable in the global settings (JG)
- Release 2.2.5 (Status: Finish)
- 2.5, branch-workflow Functional tests for mass delete (SM)
- 2.5, marketing engine, ramp-up The configuration modal window for campaign and marketing charts should show Start Date and End Date instead of Begin Date and End Date (BP)
- 2.5, branch-userinterface, workflow engine Workflow improvement - subscribe someone to a marketing list (JG)
- 2.5 create 6 more themes and backgrounds (AA)
- 2.5, branch-importrefactor Import complete - a row in last step part2 (JG)
- 2.5, bid, web forms Web Form Builder enhancement (NabilM)
- 2.5, ramp-up Add administrative option in opportunities module in designer to turn off probability mapping (BP)
- [Invalid, Performance Issues.] ReadPermissionsSubscriptionUtil should use RedBeanModel (MS)
- 2.5, branch-htmldemodatarefactor build richer full html demo data for email templates, Autoresponders and Campaigns and also better text template demo data (MS)
- 2.5, branch-readrefactorforredbeanmodel [Invalid, Performance Issues.] ReadPermissionsOptimizationUtil should use RedBeanModel (MS)
- 2.5, branch-htmldemodatarefactor HTML content unit tests (MS)
- 2.5.0, tasks v2 Testing for the notifications for task changes in case users email box is not configured. (IN)
- 2.5 Styling web forms selected attributes in edit view (AA)
- 2.5, branch-autobuildv2, branch-importautobuildv2refactor Refactor import for

BACKLOG View: Shows 106 items as of 7 Oct. The progress is 5 points. Items include:

- 2.5 Fix Campaign icon sizing in list detailview (AA)
- 2.5 Bug with Merge tag in Tasks, Meetings, Notes (MS)
- 2.5 Possible bug with Catalog Items (SP)
- 2.5, marketing engine Pages with htmlContent should show help regarding what tags are not allowed and other related stuff
- 2.5-upgrade-script, branch-autobuildv2, branch-bleeding Generate Schema diff of default install and share it with ivica (MS)
- 2.5, branch-gamification User interface and logic for redeeming coins against a game reward (JG)
- 2.5 need google analytics module icon (AA)
- 2.5, marketing Email Details View and Email Recipients in Campaigns Styling (AA)
- 2.5.0, tasks v2 General list view for tasks (Mayank)
- 2.5.0, tasks v2 Integration with new task modal design for account/contact/opportunities/leads (Mayank)
- 2.5.0, tasks v2 Integration of new kanban view design for account/opportunity/lead/contact details page (Mayank)
- 2.5, branch-workflow style/css fixes on workflow in message queue search improvement (AA)
- 2.5 styling for group and roles intro page (AA)
- 2.5.0, tasks v2 Handle designer specific logic for task v2 (Mayank)
- 2.5 Refactor emailMessages to people/accounts to be MANY_MANY (SP)
- 11 Nov (6 points)
- 112 18 Nov (5 points)
- 113 25 Nov (8 points)
- 114 2 Dec (8 points)

<http://www.pivotaltracker.com>

SCRUM Visualized



Some Pot Shots

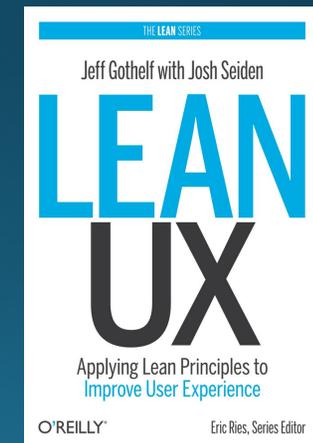
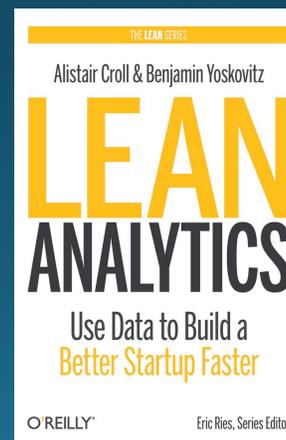
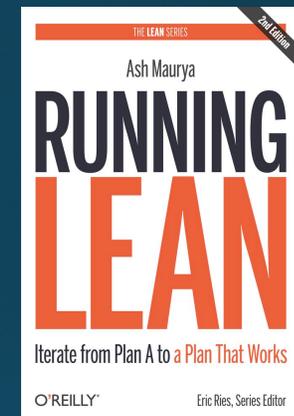
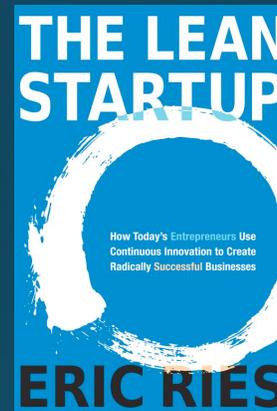
- Story points are like fake currency in games to me
 - I just spent X doughnuts
 - We just used X story points
- Intention is good
 - But it is somewhat window dressing on a cut and chew approach
- There have been a number of times I want to employ agile mechanisms but the nature of what needs to be done doesn't lend itself well even though the project itself is managed this way
 - Very often the tasks don't decompose well they are largeish but don't benefit well being broken into mini tasks. Ex: We are porting ~96 classes to a messed up way of OOP to a standard ES6 way. That is clearly not a single sprint effort but breaking the story cards into a single class at a time is nuts and just chunking it by sprint size is arbitrary. The person(s) doing this every report for ~2-5 weeks annoyingly get to say "working on the class refactor"
 - Conclusion: Some sort of religious adherence is not useful, you'll be made to force things and it limits how you might solve the problem. Remember: At the conclusion/ship time people don't buy your process they buy your result! The process has to help us get there and when it doesn't we should feel free to modify it or even dump parts of it

Some Other Thoughts

- Sprint length varies - 1 week, 2 weeks, 1 month
 - Too frequent overhead gets bad
 - Too infrequent - you're doing Waterfall even if you don't know it
 - Should it be static? Makes it simple but sometimes you might be making things arbitrary or awkward
- Product Owner is a key role, have a bad one and you're doomed.
- Q: What does a good product owner look like? Waterfall wise are they different?

Lean is the New Agile?

- Enter the whole Lean team with their modifications and applications
- Some really good ideas but as always watch the kool-aid
- Original for cars maybe it works for SE maybe also? Hmm...more borrowing!



Origins of Lean

- Production practice that considers the expenditure of resources for any goal other than the creation of value for the end customer to be wasteful, and thus a target for elimination.
 - “preserving value with less work”
- This idea is being adopted in the Web/Start-up World



Seven Wastes

1. Transportation
2. Inventory
3. Motion
4. Waiting
5. Over-processing
6. Over-production
7. Defects

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lean_manufacturing

Do they apply?

- Transportation - the movement of code around various environments?
- Inventory - backlog of undeployed code
- Motion - harsh sprints, long sessions, etc.
- Waiting - work blocking, team inefficiency
- Over-production - algorithm polishing, corner case over focus
- Defects - Bugs

TPS SE?

- Continuous Improvement
 - Check: Data driven, Big Data, Metrics, Analytics, etc.
 - Check: CI (Continuous Integration), Agile, Sprints, etc.
- Respect for People
 - Check: Peopleware ideas

Quote #1

*"The hardest single part of building a software system is deciding precisely what to build. No other part of the conceptual work is as difficult as establishing the detailed technical requirements, including all the interfaces to **people**, to **machines**, and to **other software systems**. No other part of the work so cripples the resulting system if done wrong. No other part is more difficult to rectify later."*

Quote #2

“...the most important function that the software builder performs for the client is the iterative extraction and refinement of the product requirements. For the truth is, the **client does not know what he wants**. The client usually **does not know what questions must be answered**, and he has almost never thought of the problem in the detail necessary for specification.”

Quote #3

“Much of present-day software-acquisition procedure rests upon the assumption that one can specify a satisfactory system in advance, get bids for its construction, have it built, and install it. I think this assumption is fundamentally wrong, and that many software-acquisition problems spring from that fallacy. Hence, they cannot be fixed without fundamental revision--revision that provides for iterative development and specification of prototypes and products.”

Quote #4

“Grow, don’t build, software.”

Nope, not Lean really surprise, all said by

Fred Brooks, age 83

“Mr. Mythical Man Month,
Waterfall, etc.”

Seems like we keep
visiting the same ideas
with new names

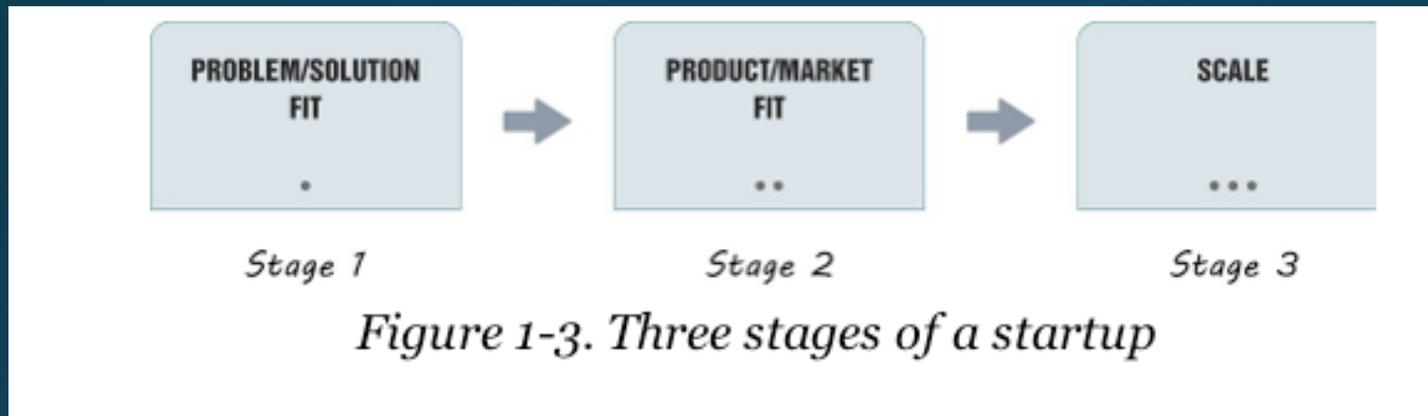


Lean Premise

- Three rough steps:
 1. Document your Plan A
 2. Identify the riskiest part of the plan
 3. Systematically test the plan

All the while upload a strong vision with facts not faith

It's so simple!



Err...not so sure

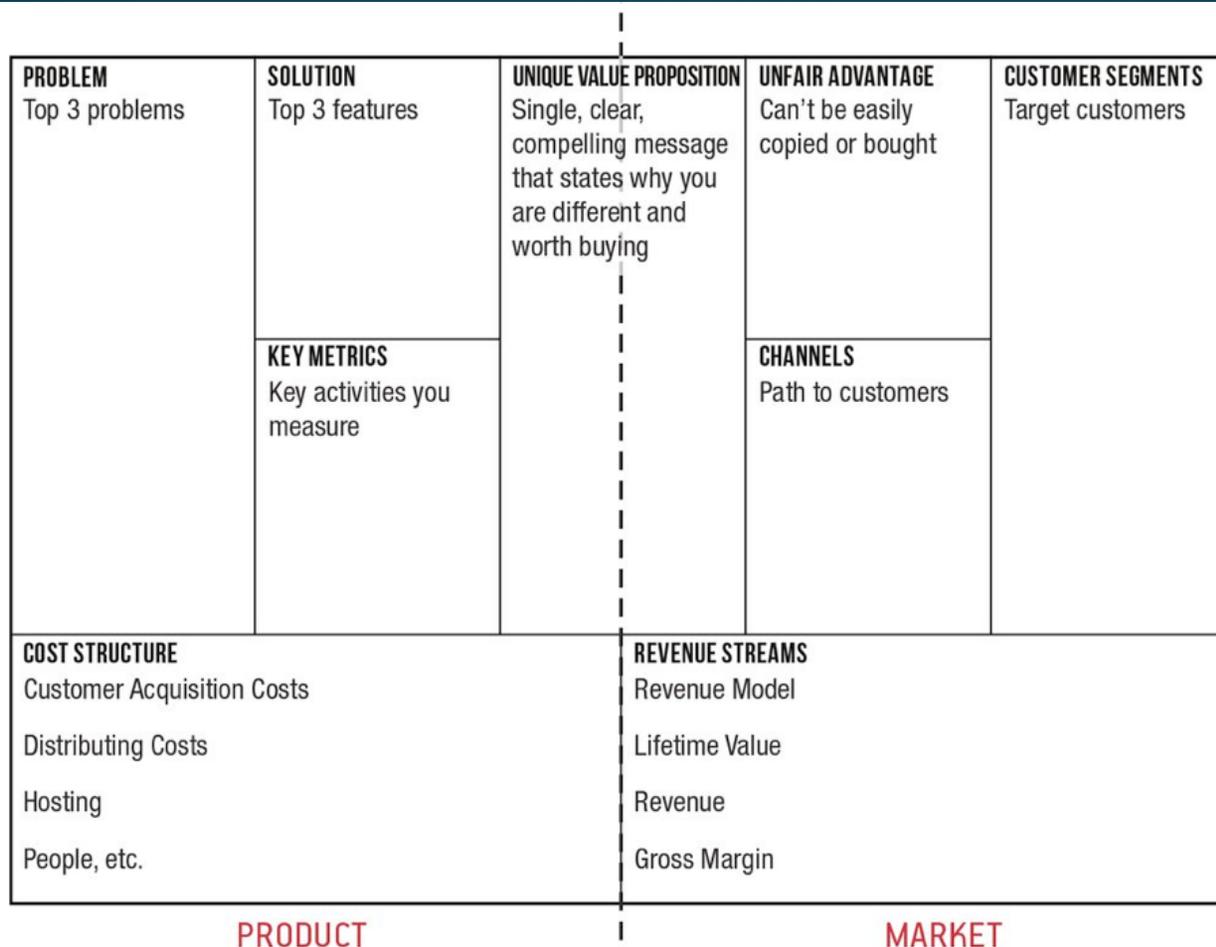
Step 1

- Q: Do we have a problem worth solving?
 - *Tip: Watch out for confirmation bias here!*
 - Q: Is this something customers want? (demand)
 - Q: Will they pay for it? (viability)
 - Q: Can it be solved*? (feasibility)

Solidifying the Step

- Write down initial vision and share it!
 - Sounds like reqs, biz plan, etc.
 - Problem: Too long to write, nobody reads
 - Solution: Refined pitch, lean canvas, etc.

Lean Canvas



Lean Canvas is adapted from The Business Model Canvas (<http://www.businessmodelgeneration.com>) and is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Un-ported License.

Figure 1-1. Lean Canvas

Not our problem

- Yes indeed portions of this are simply not our problem
 - We should worry if there aren't answers here. If no new job, next client, etc.
 - Reality is that many areas involve us and we can't abdicate them otherwise don't complain about being a code pusher for a bad idea

Involvement?

PROBLEM Top 3 problems  vision features reqs	SOLUTION Top 3 features  features reqs	UNIQUE VALUE PROPOSITION Single, clear, compelling message that states why you are different and worth buying  vision features reqs	UNFAIR ADVANTAGE Can't be easily copied or bought  features req	CUSTOMER SEGMENTS Target customers  user knowledge
	KEY METRICS Key activities you measure  analytics built in		CHANNELS Path to customers  user knowledge	
COST STRUCTURE Customer Acquisition Costs  Distributing Costs  Hosting  Tech aspects in here People, etc. 			REVENUE STREAMS Revenue Model  Lifetime Value Revenue Gross Margin	
PRODUCT			MARKET	

Lean Canvas is adapted from The Business Model Canvas (<http://www.businessmodelgeneration.com>) and is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Un-ported License.

Figure 1-1. Lean Canvas

Step 1 Result

- From our better be tested ideas we derive the minimum viable product (MVP)
 - Sadly MVP determination isn't that easy
 - MVP may not be that small
 - MVP may create a code corner
 - Timing can kill all this

Step 2: Product / Market Fit

- We somehow have to come up with an understanding if this MVP is really a good idea before doing all this work
- Take the MVP out see if it works, talk to customers, ask questions and iterate the idea and “pivot” to other approaches as they become apparent

Step 1 and 2 Iterations

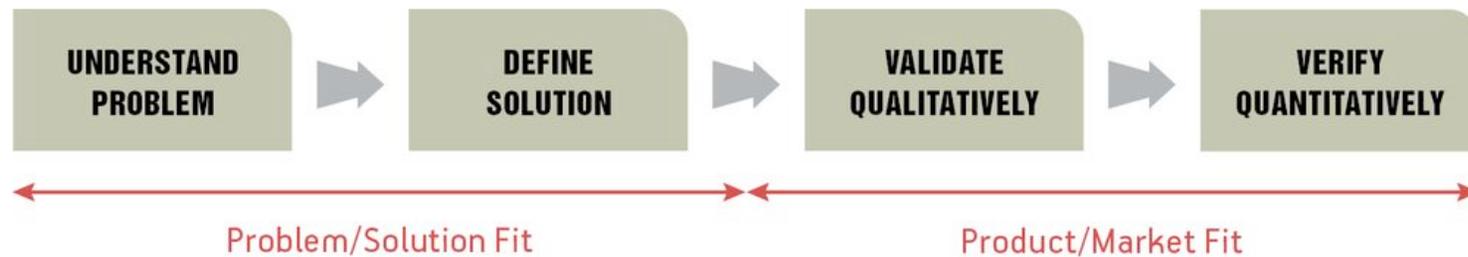


Figure 1-7. Iteration meta-pattern

The first two stages (Understand Problem and Define Solution) are about getting to problem/solution fit or finding a problem worth solving.

Then you iterate toward product/market fit by testing whether you've built something people want using a two-stage approach: first qualitative (micro-scale), then quantitative (macro-scale).

Lean Loop

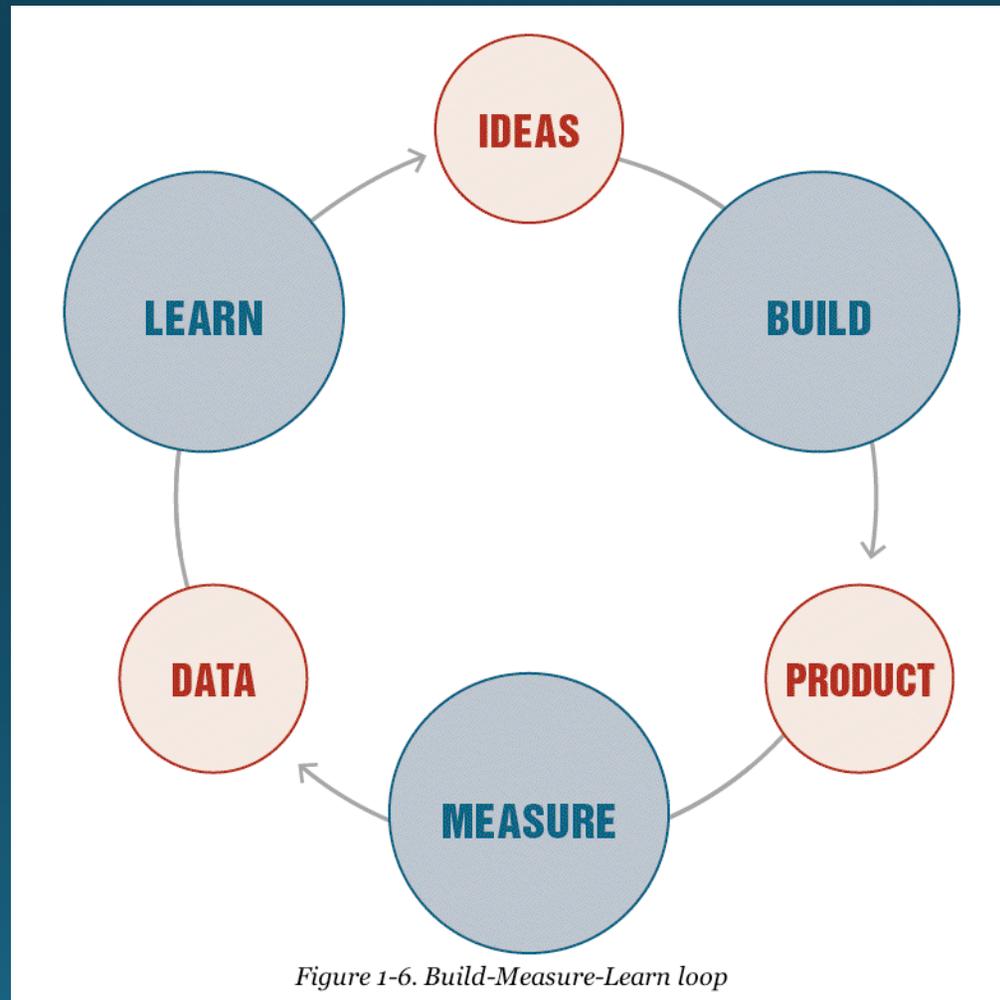
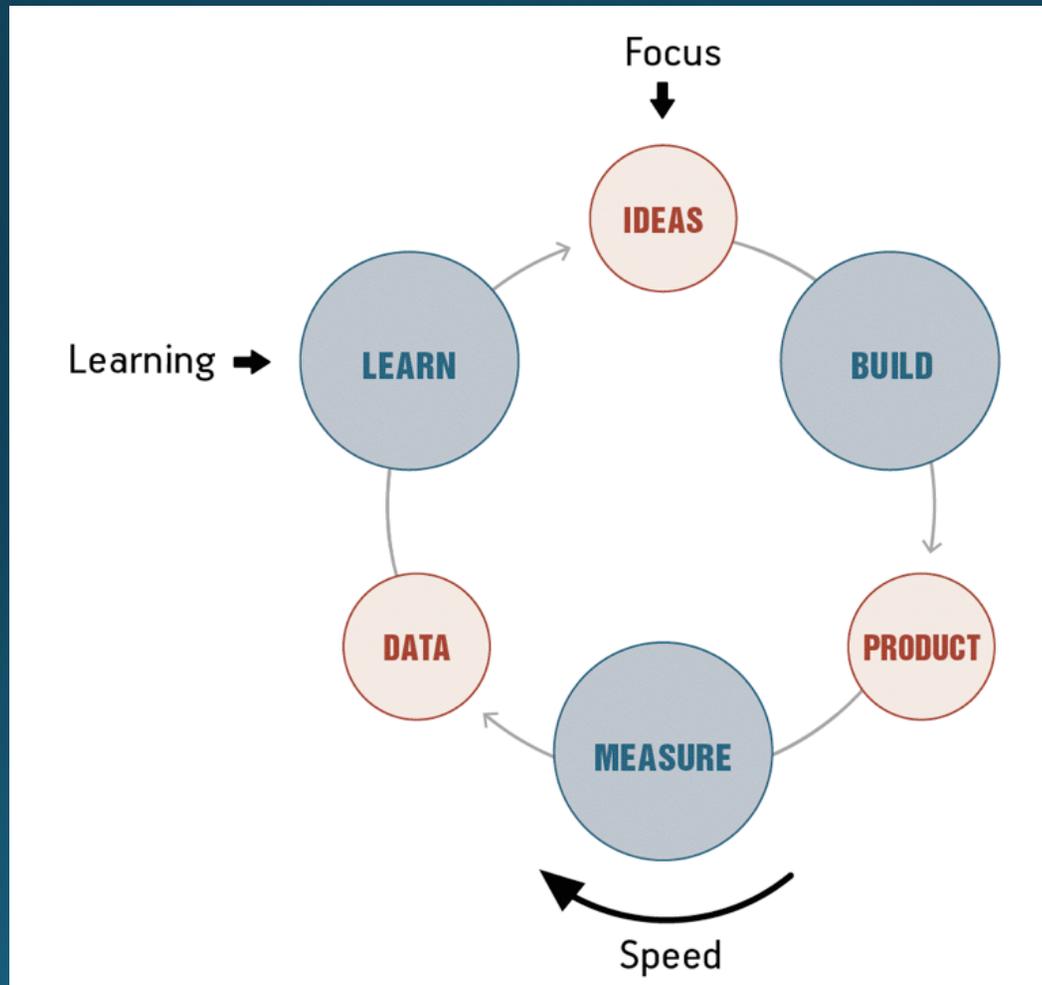


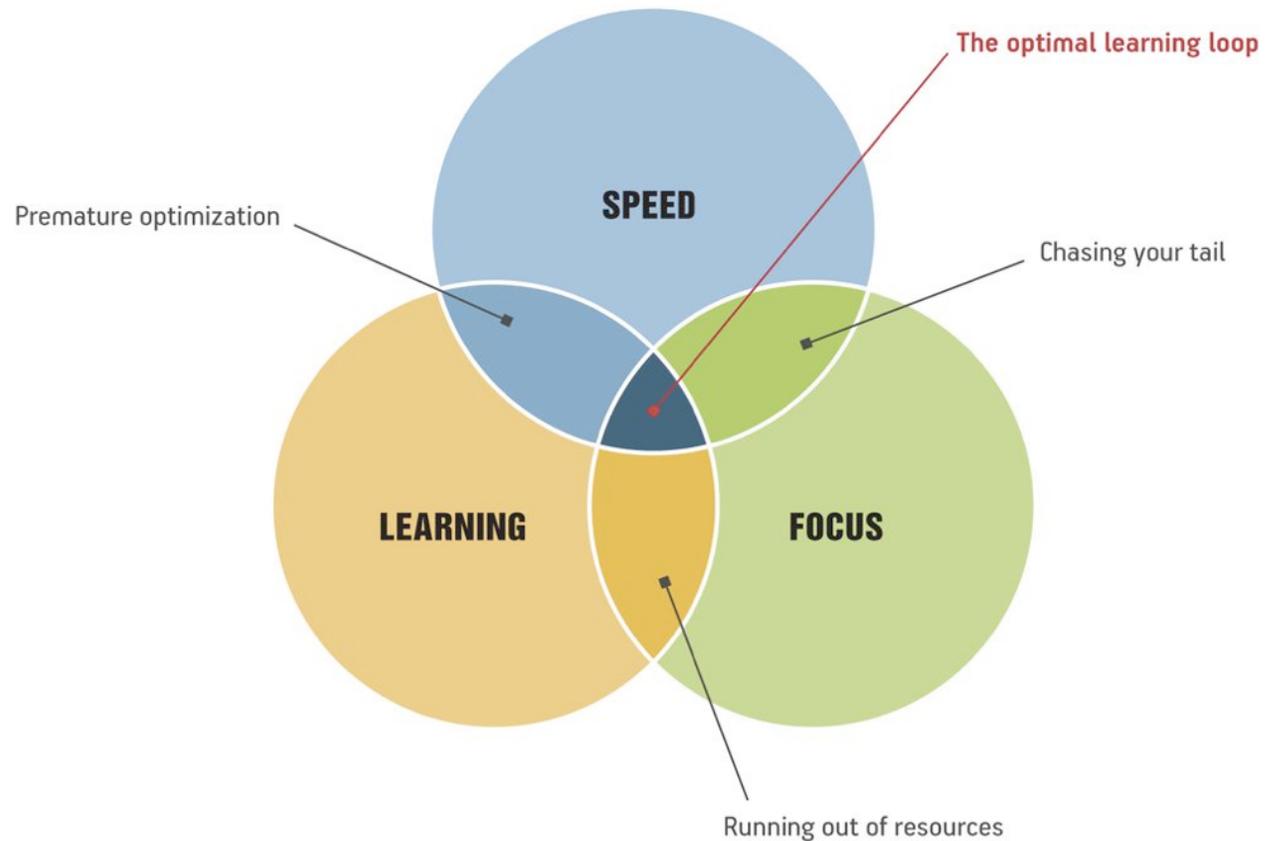
Figure 1-6. Build-Measure-Learn loop

Loop Thoughts

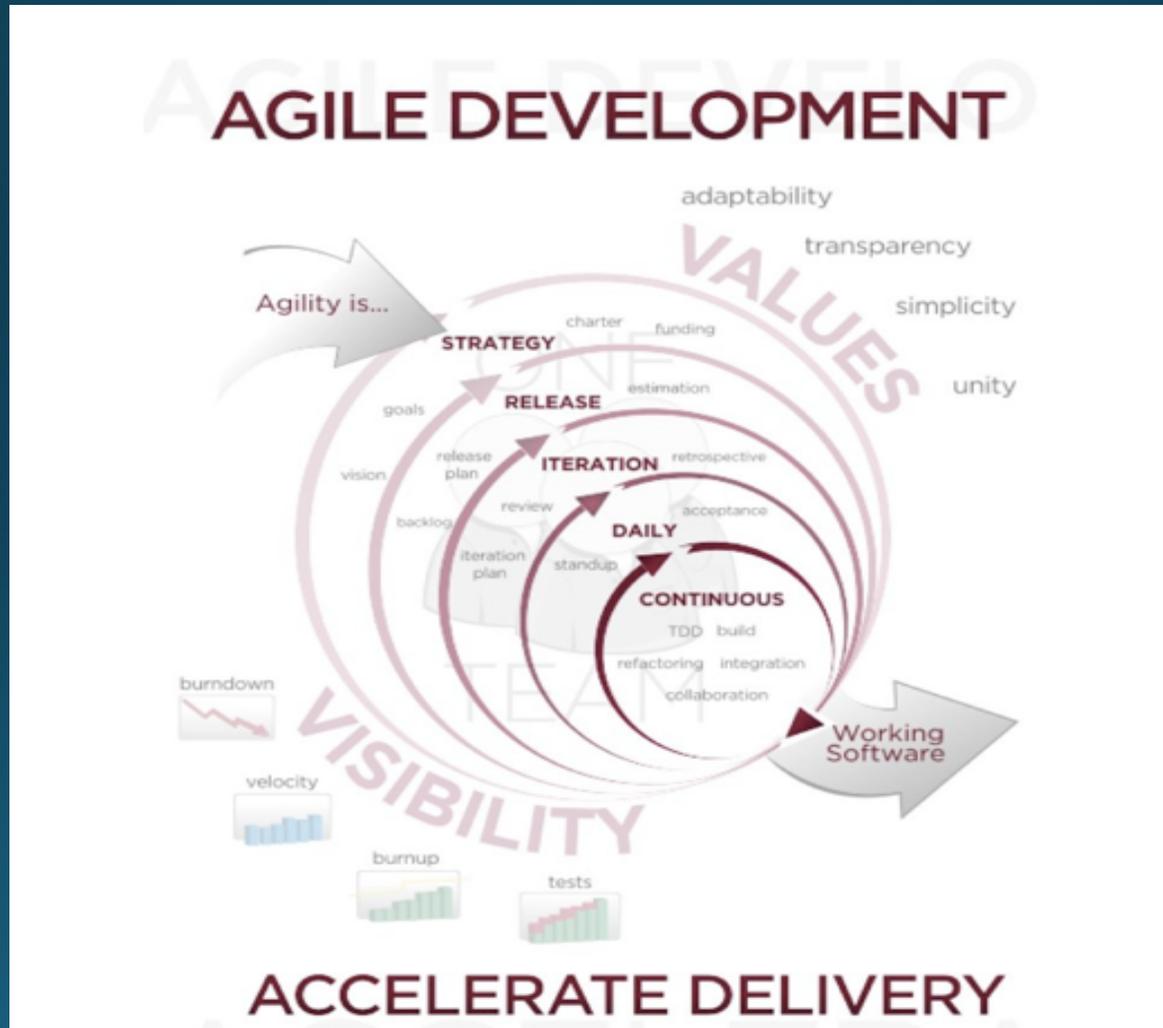


Optimal Lean Loop

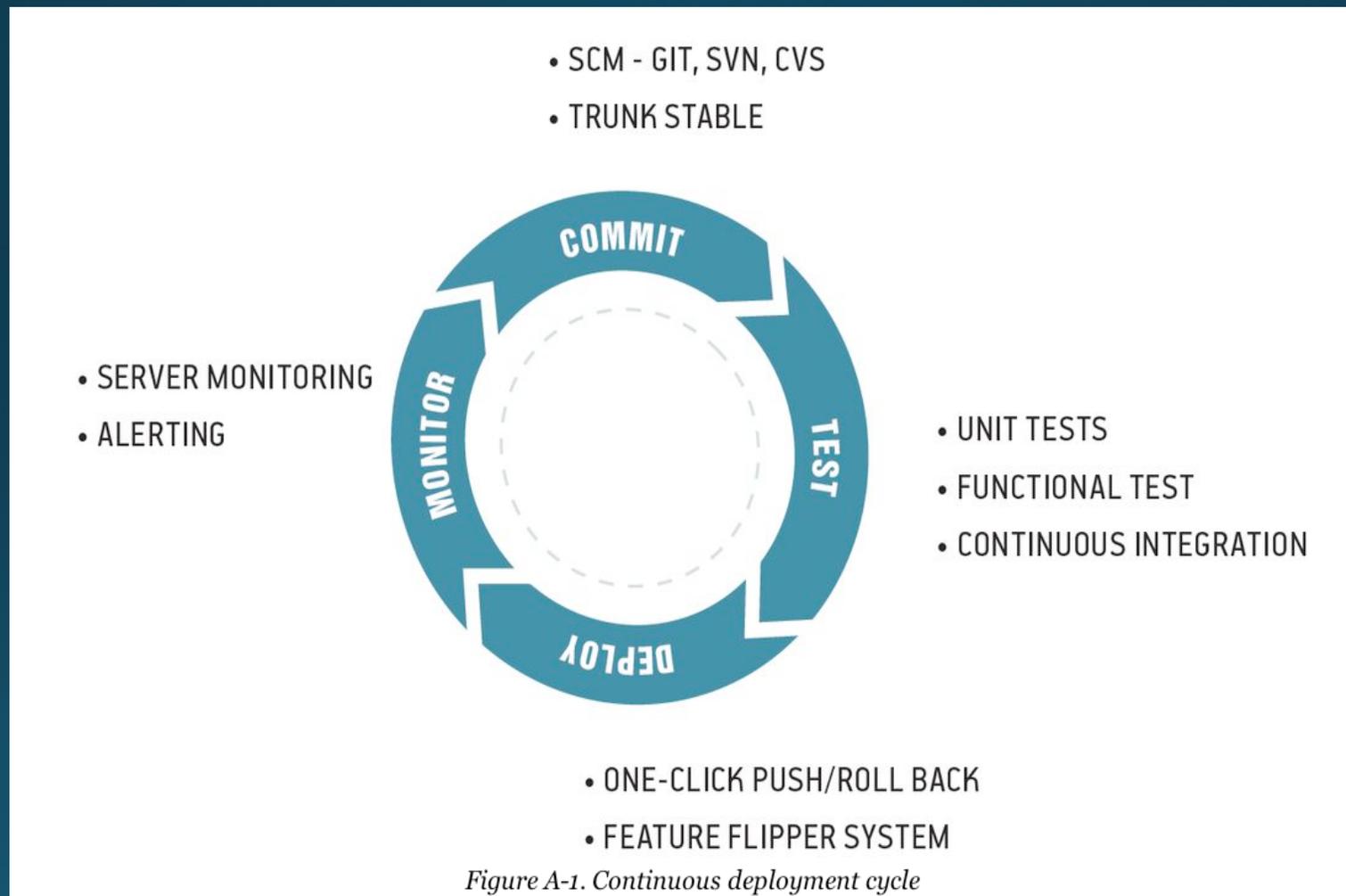
Figure 5-1. Speed, learning, and focus



Agile Visualized Seems Lean-y

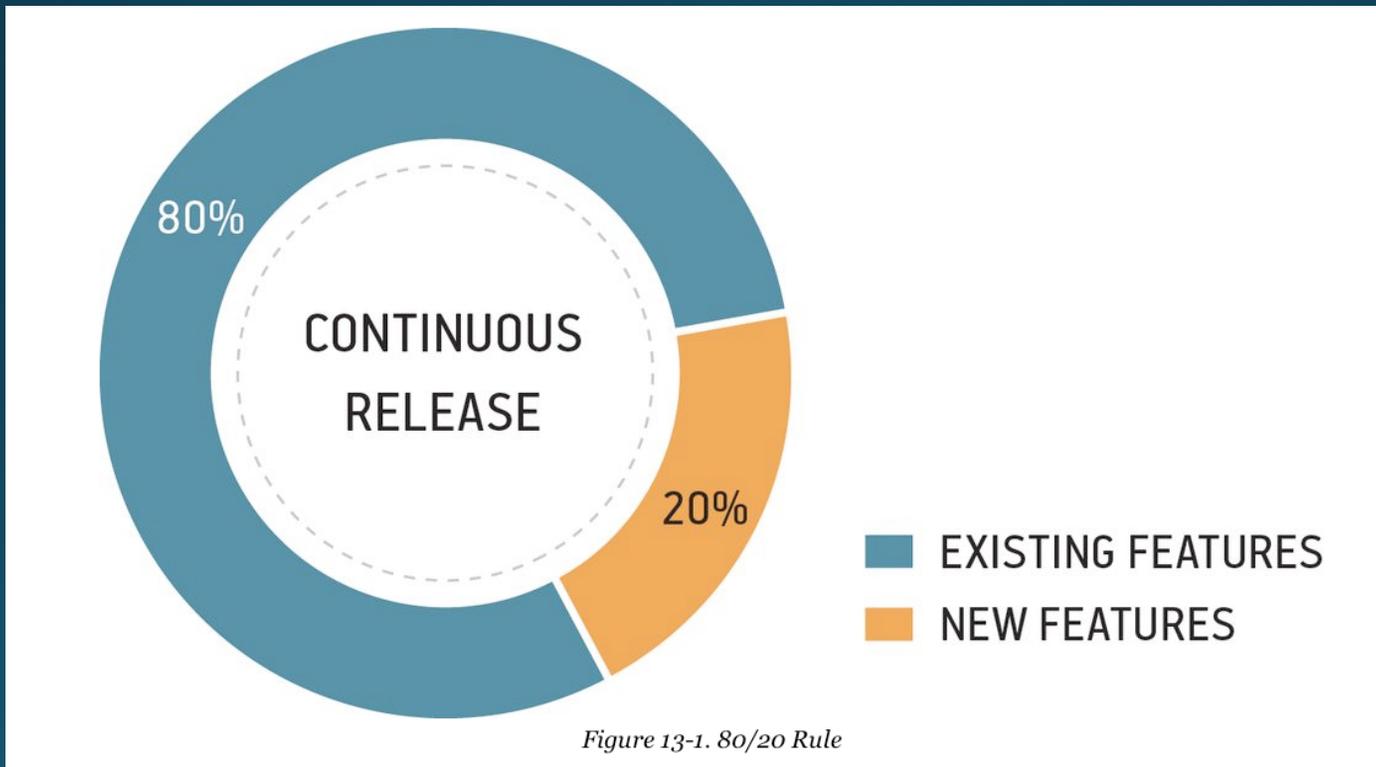


Continuous Deployment is Lean?



What to Build?

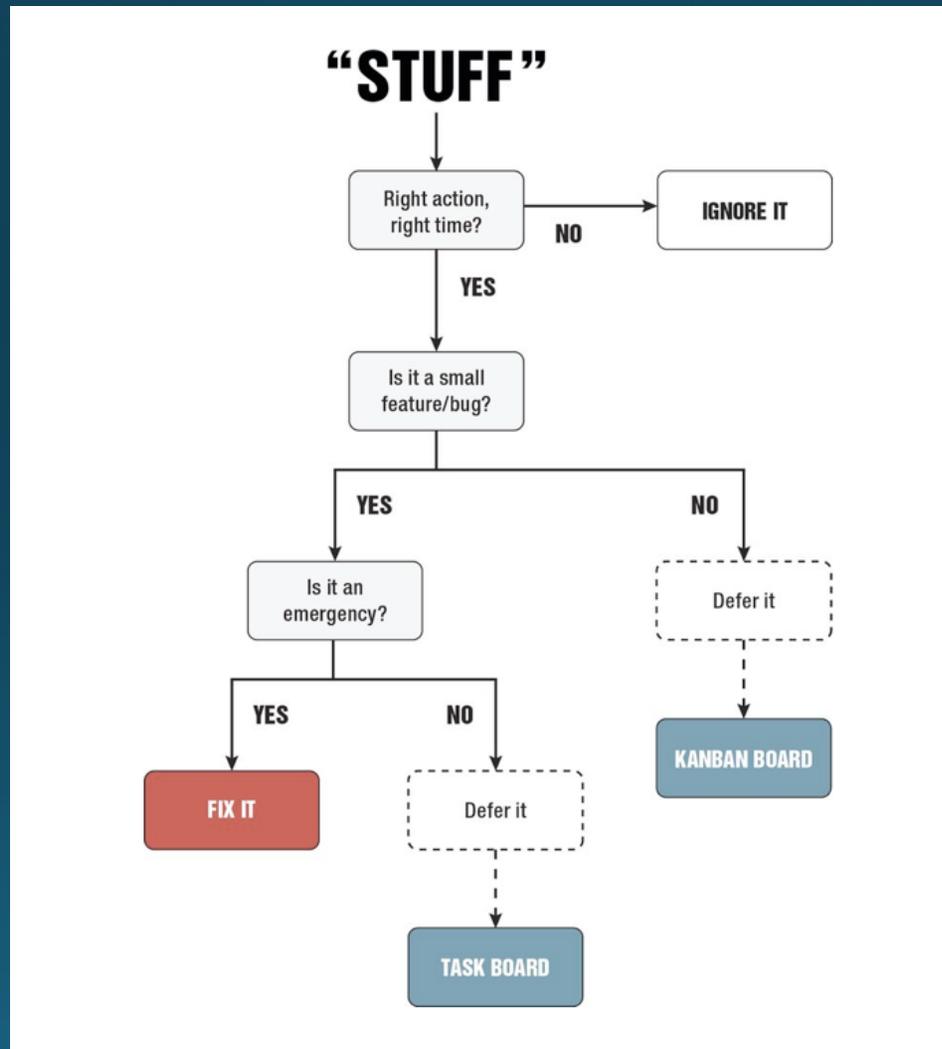
- Lean says less new feature



Pull don't push

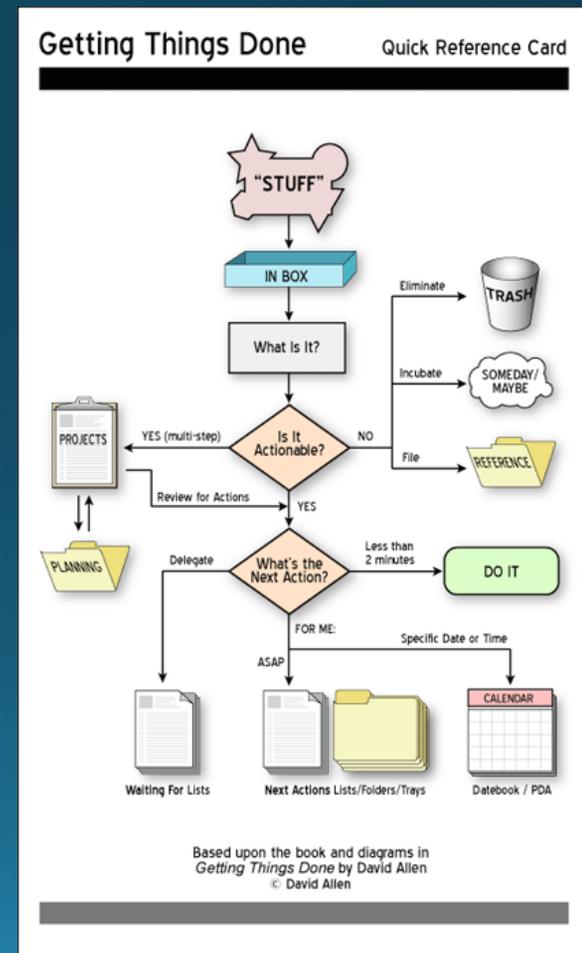
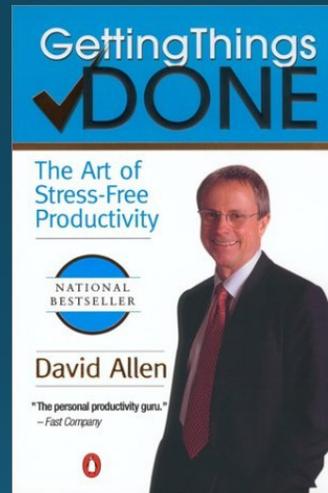
- Lean Premises: “Don't be a feature pusher”
 - Adding features based upon customer demand and interest
- Whoa! This flies in the face of customers not knowing what they want. Furthermore this might get you in trouble with market effects as well

Task Prioritization

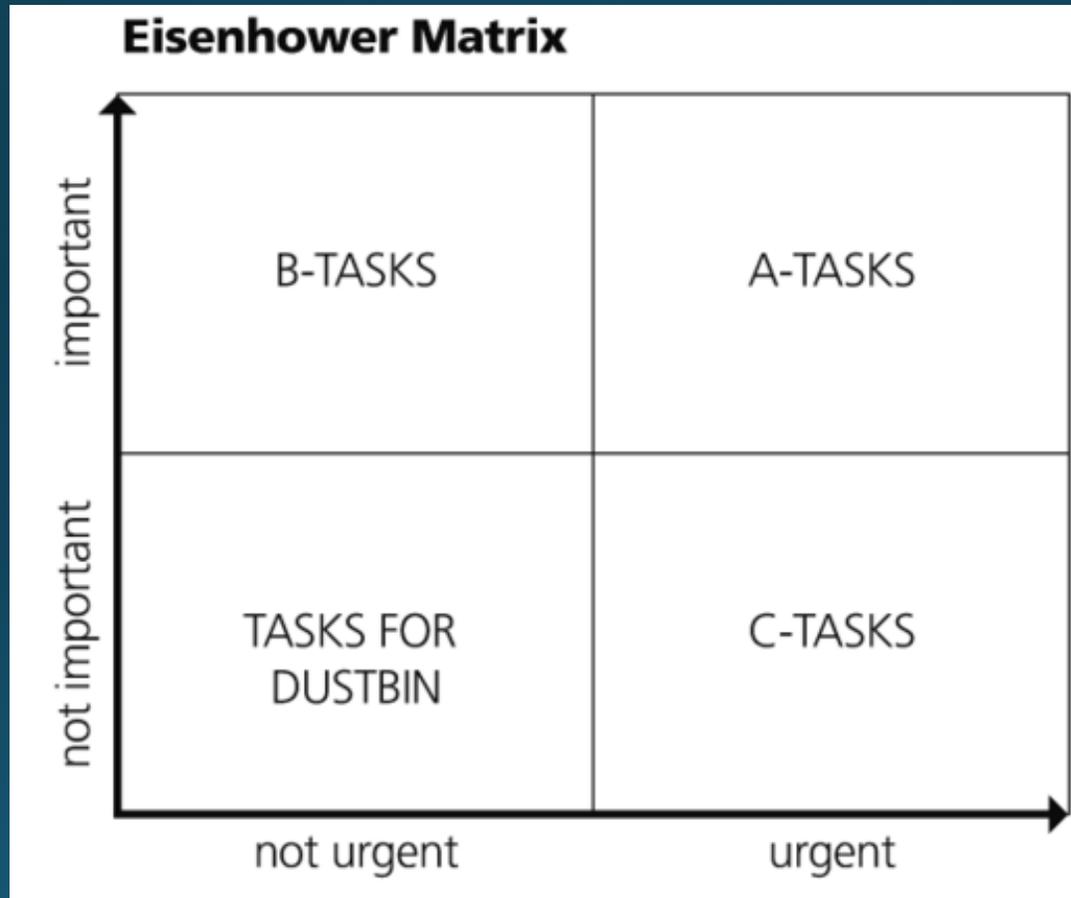


Just GTD for Programming?

- This seems to remind me of productivity schemes like *Getting Things Done* methodology
- Ok ok ok...we get it now!



Ike did this before them?



It seems there really isn't much new under the sun in terms of process management, but then how come we keep pushing here?

Step 3: Scale



**sales, marketing, raising money,
measurement and refinement, automation, etc.**

How do I accelerate growth?

Figure 15-1. After product/market fit

_AD, Lean, Agile Truths

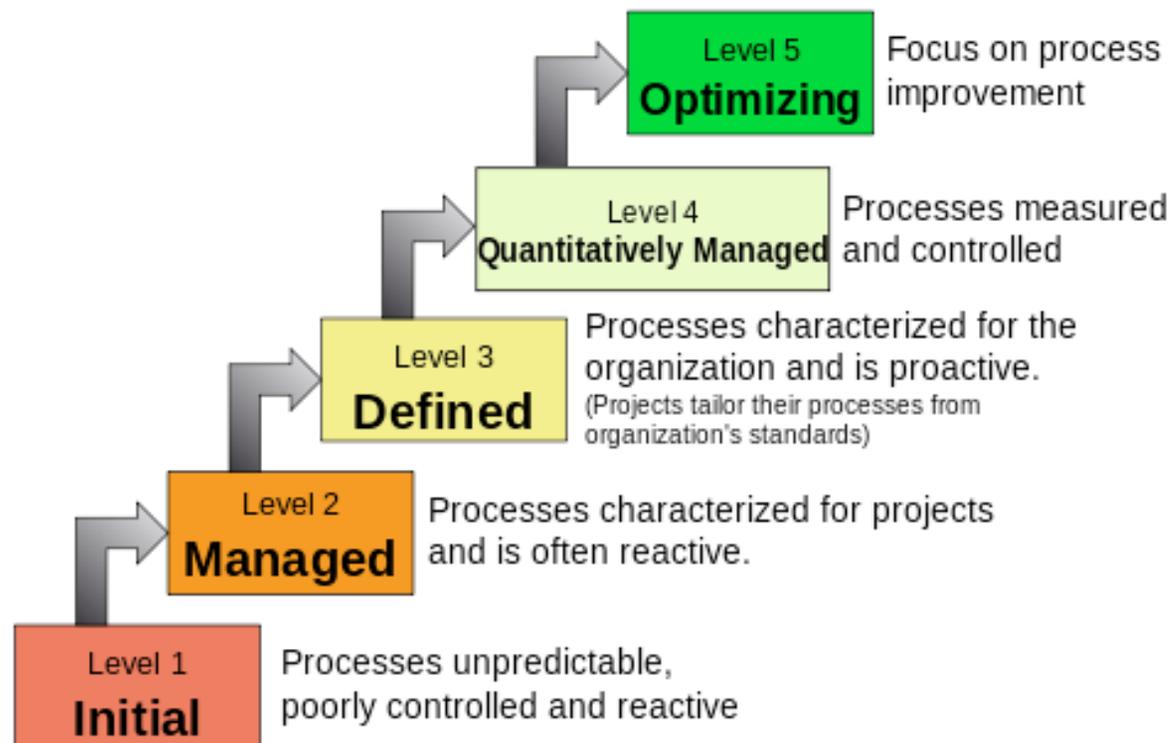
- While JAD, RAD, Lean, Agile... can deal with change and unclarity of thought it may...
 - Build wrong thing many times?
 - Suffer from “marry” prototype problem
 - Damage us with early releases
 - Be difficult to cost control or budget
 - Suffer from difficulty of org buy-in
 - Have its own arbitrary adherence problems like any other process model (see my example earlier)

Process Maturity

- CMMI - Capability Maturity Model Integration
 - Required by many (ex. DoD, US Govt.)
- Basically talks about having formalism and repeatability to your SE processes with eventual focus on improvement

CMMI Visualized

Characteristics of the Maturity levels



Over-Engineered

- Watch for Architectural Astronauts
 - Afflicted with Analysis Paralysis
- Failure (or fear) to launch
- Just one more thing...
- “Spruce Goose” projects

Under-Engineered

- Quick and dirty
- Cowboy coding, magical thinking, no compromises
- Sometimes it makes sense for exploration
- Both these points are the extremist position to too much process or too little

Product over process

- Does process really matter how you did it if result is ok?
- To us or boss
 - Yes - if not repeatable
 - Yes - if it costs too much
 - Yes - if it was a miserable experience
- To customer
 - Who cares about sausage unless pricey or unavailable!

Worse is better?

- Counterintuitively sometimes this is true
 - Less functionality can be better quality wise
 - More functionality can be worse system wise, but may be better market wise?
- Consider the effect of feature/UX from market forces
- Human's employing simple heuristics to navigate the market will often introduce things which may sabotage the engineering purity
 - Ex: Having to jam in features for market acceptance only to see them unused

Always Be Pragmatic

- Principle of Good Enough
- 80/20 Rule - Pareto distribution, 80% of value from 20%
“Law of vital few”
- KISS - Keep it simple, stupid
- MVP - Minimal Viable Product
- More to be created

Theory and Practice

- There has been some sense that theory is well just theory
 - I've already noticed the perk ups in various lectures
- So we take some minutes to tell war stories to see the patterns here

Story Time

- FieldLevel: Practice and premise issues
- 'Start-up X': The anti-FieldLevel
- Dokoni: Solving today's problem >10years ago
- ServerMask: the warm-up project with success?
- ServerDefender: 4 year MVP
- w3compiler - scratched an itch years early

Story Time

- pageXchanger - yeah nobody wanted it
- URLSpellCheck - MVP example no demand
- CustomError - Nice to have but ...
- httpZip - better copies make more money
- ClickFormant - good idea, too early, didn't stick it out

Story Time

- ZingChart - the pivot from ClickFormant, success but...
- ZingGrid – MVP then explode...recovery mode
- More in the hopper but...

Morale of Stories?

- There is no secret, other than everyone wants there to be one
 - Maybe we should sell that!!!
- Have a set of techniques to pull out per problem, roll with the challenges, be patient, be precise, and try to have fun