

What is Agile?

August 20, 2013

Consultant



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@HenrikKniberg

Father



Agile & Lean coach



Spotify

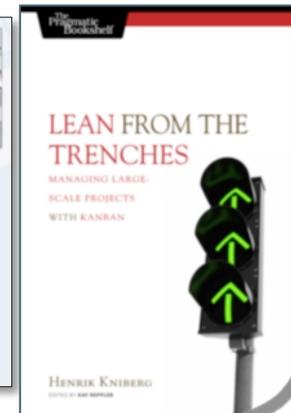
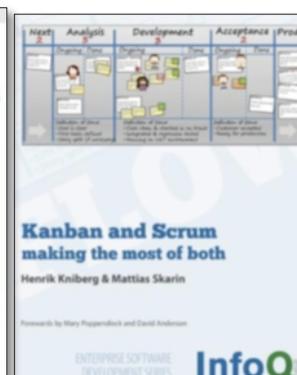
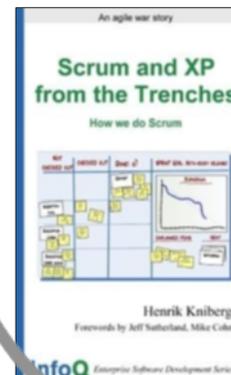


Rikspolisstyrelsen

(& more...)



Author



Boring but important practical info about these slides

Usage

Feel free to use slides & pictures as you wish, as long as you leave my name somewhere.
For licensing details see Creative Commons (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>)

Downloading the right font

This presentation uses the "Noteworthy" font. If you're using Mac OSX 10.7 or later it should be preinstalled. If you're on a Windows or older Mac OS then you need to download the font from here:
<http://tinyurl.com/noteworthy-ttc>

- On Windows right-click the font file and select "install". Then restart Powerpoint.
- On Mac, double-click the font file and press "install font". Then restart Powerpoint.

The PDF version of these slides has the font embedded, so you don't need to do anything. On the other hand you don't get the fancy animations.

Font test

How the font is supposed to look:
(screenshot from my computer)

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

How the font shows up on your computer:

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog



Regardless of font appearance, if that text doesn't fit nicely into the box then you're going to need to download the right font, or switch to a new font and fiddle with the slides to make sure things fit.

Agile is...

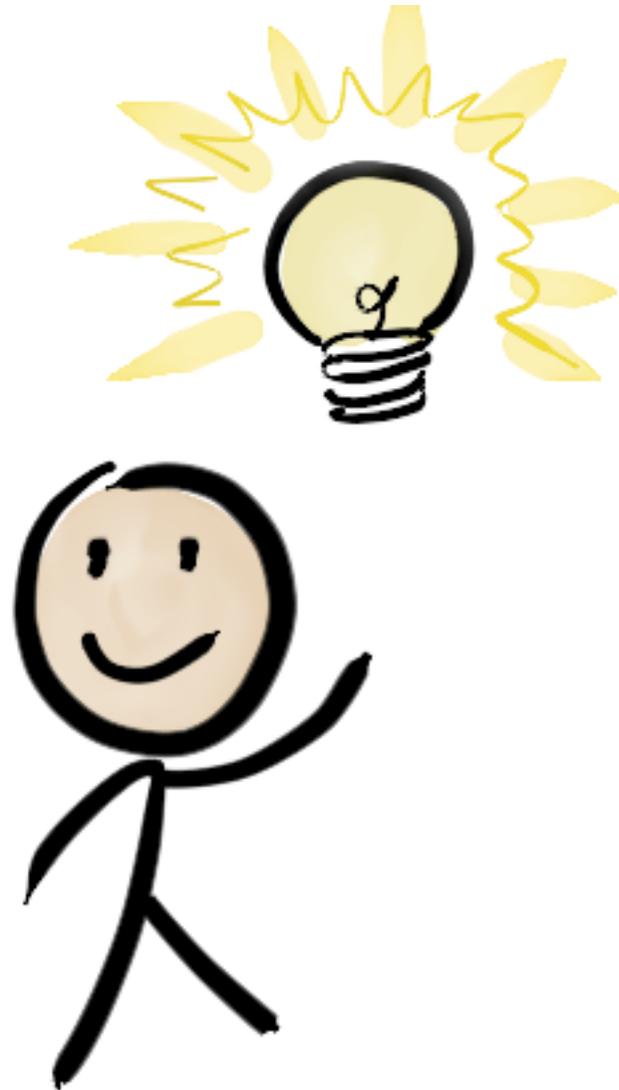
Why?

How?

Early delivery of business value

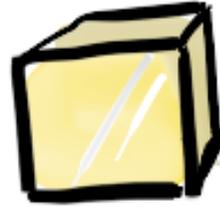
Less bureaucracy

All products / features start with a Great Idea!

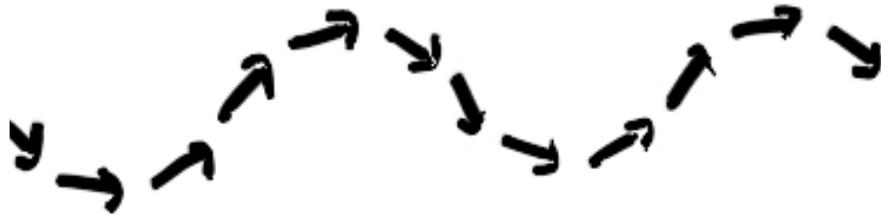


Unfortunately..... it is likely to fail

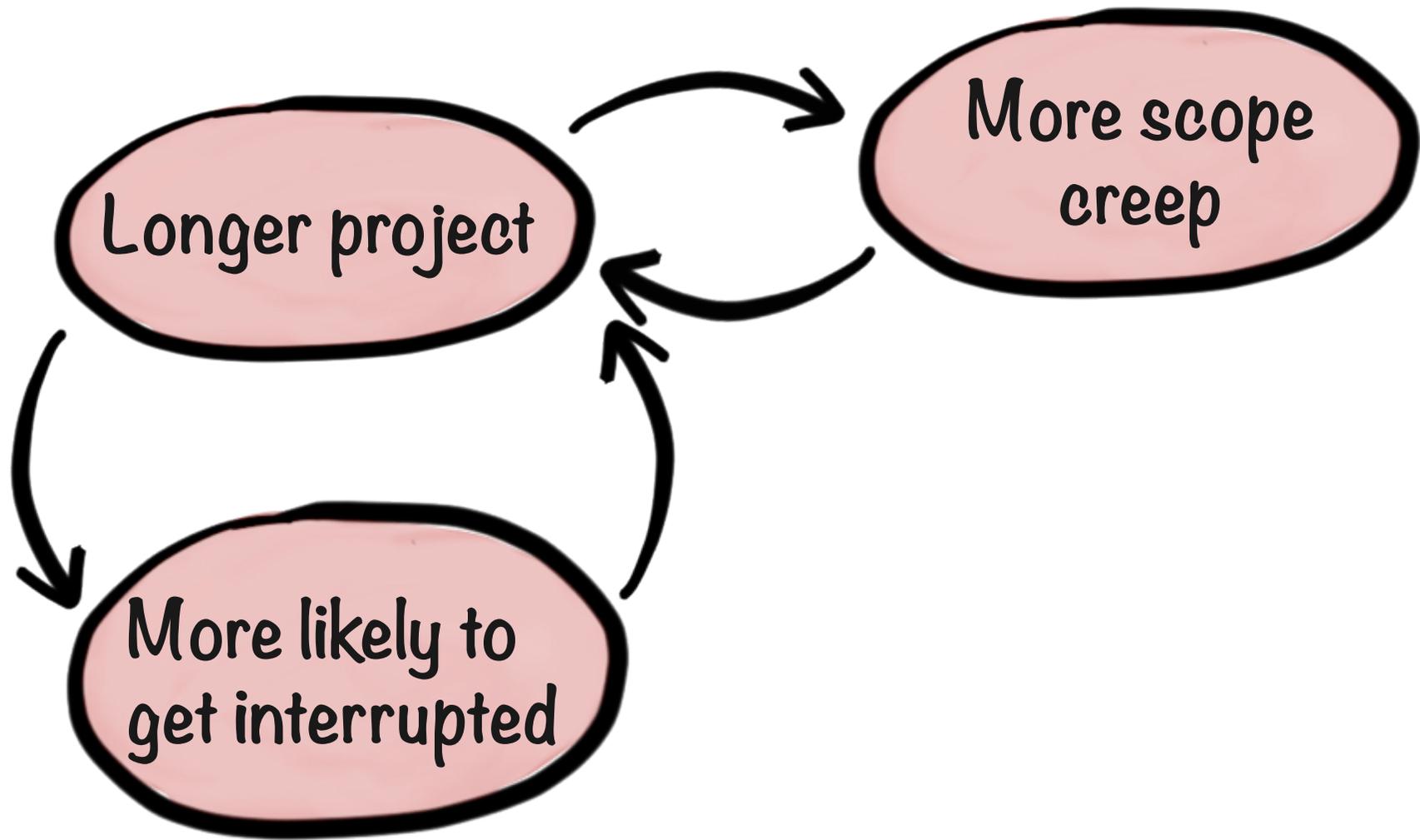
Plan



Reality



Long projects get Longer

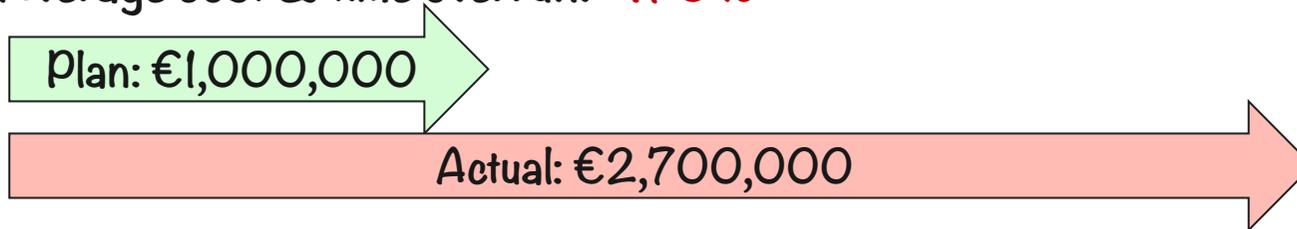


Most IT projects fail. And are late.

The Standish Group has studied over 40,000 projects in 10 years.

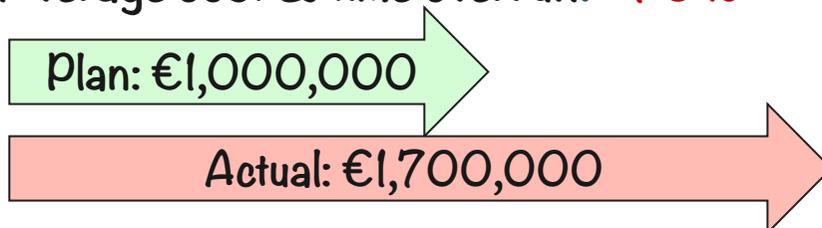
IT project success rate 1994: **15%**

Average cost & time overrun: **≈170%**



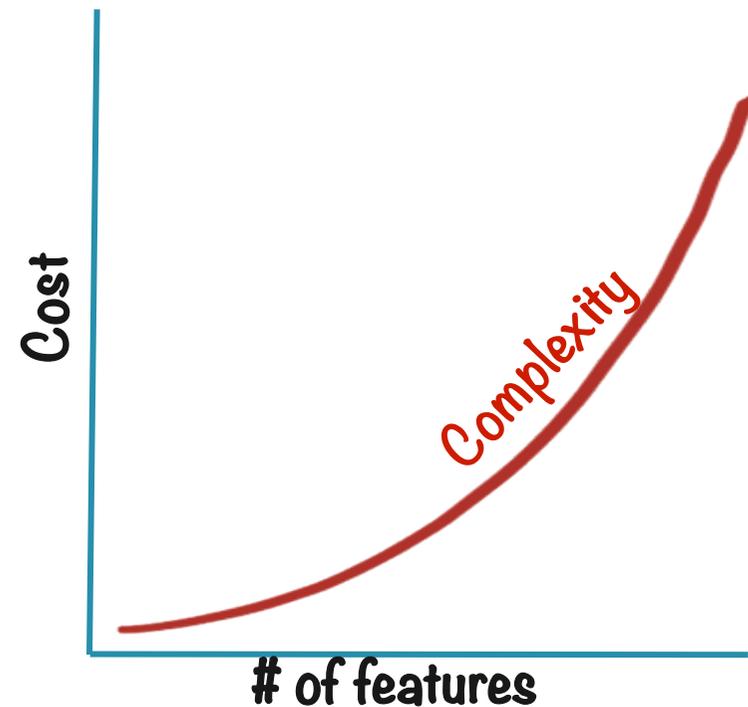
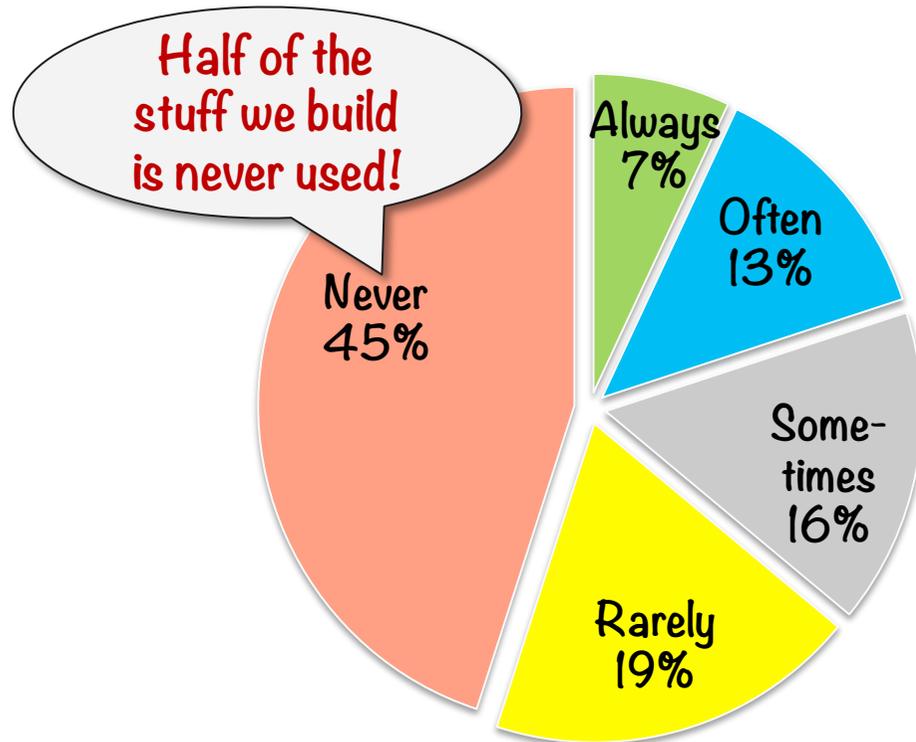
IT project success rate 2004: **34%**

Average cost & time overrun: **≈70%**



We tend to build the wrong thing

Features and functions used in a typical system



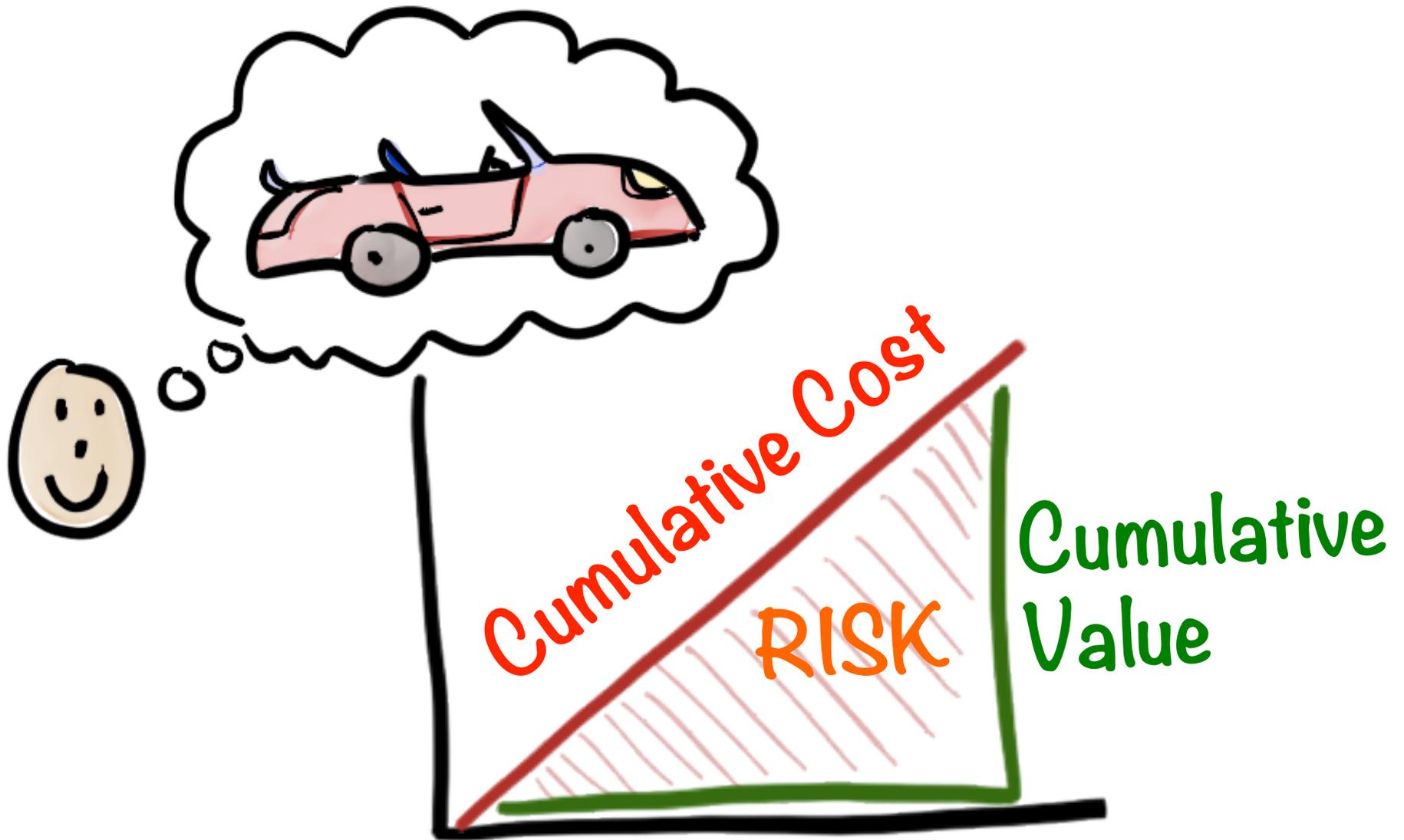
Sources:

Standish group study reported at XP2002 by Jim Johnson, Chairman

The right-hand graph is courtesy of Mary Poppendieck

Big Bang

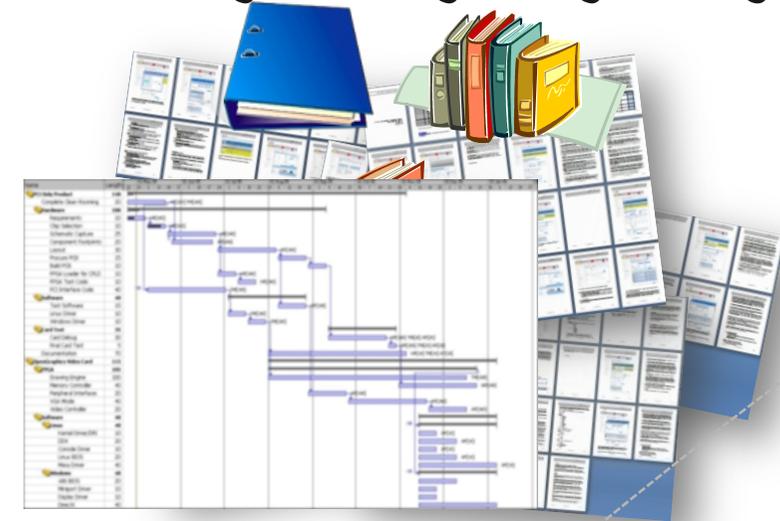
Big Bang = Big Risk



Big Bang = cannon ball

Assumptions:

- The customer knows what he wants
- The developers know how to build it
- Nothing will change along the way

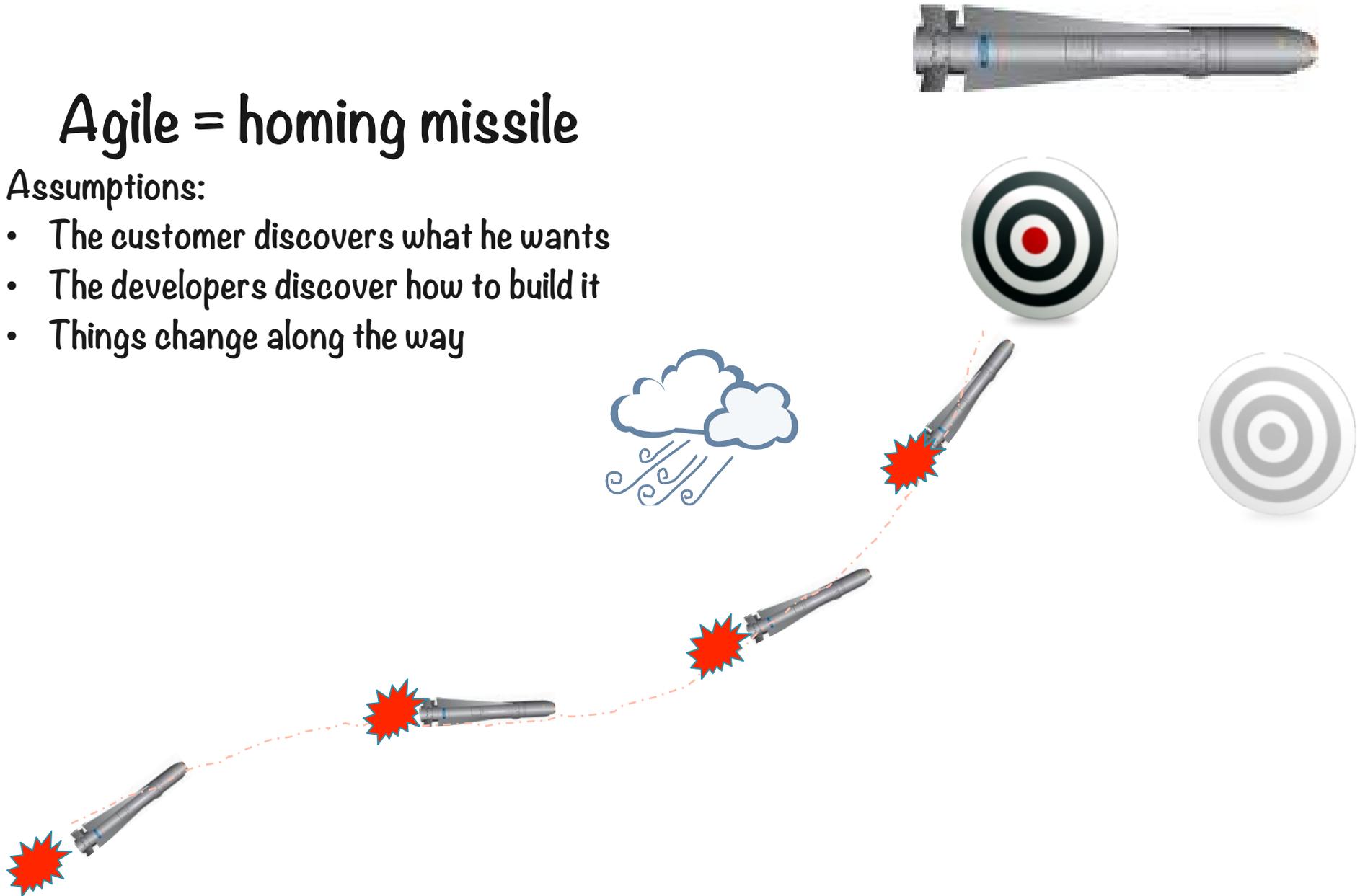


Agile

Agile = homing missile

Assumptions:

- The customer discovers what he wants
- The developers discover how to build it
- Things change along the way



Agile Manifesto

www.agilemanifesto.org

We are uncovering better ways of developing software by doing it and helping others do it.

Feb 11-13, 2001

Snowbird ski resort, Utah

Kent Beck
Mike Beedle
Arie van Bennekum
Alistair Cockburn
Ward Cunningham
Martin Fowler
James Grenning
Jim Highsmith
Andrew Hunt

Ron Jeffries
Jon Kern
Brian Marick
Robert C. Martin
Steve Mellor
Ken Schwaber
Jeff Sutherland
Dave Thomas

Agile Manifesto

www.agilemanifesto.org

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

Individuals and interactions over **processes and tools**

Individer och interaktioner framför processer och verktyg

Working software over **comprehensive documentation**

Fungerande programvara framför omfattande dokumentation

Customer collaboration over **contract negotiation**

Kundsamarbete framför kontraktsförhandling

Responding to change over **following a plan**

Anpassning till förändring framför att följa en plan

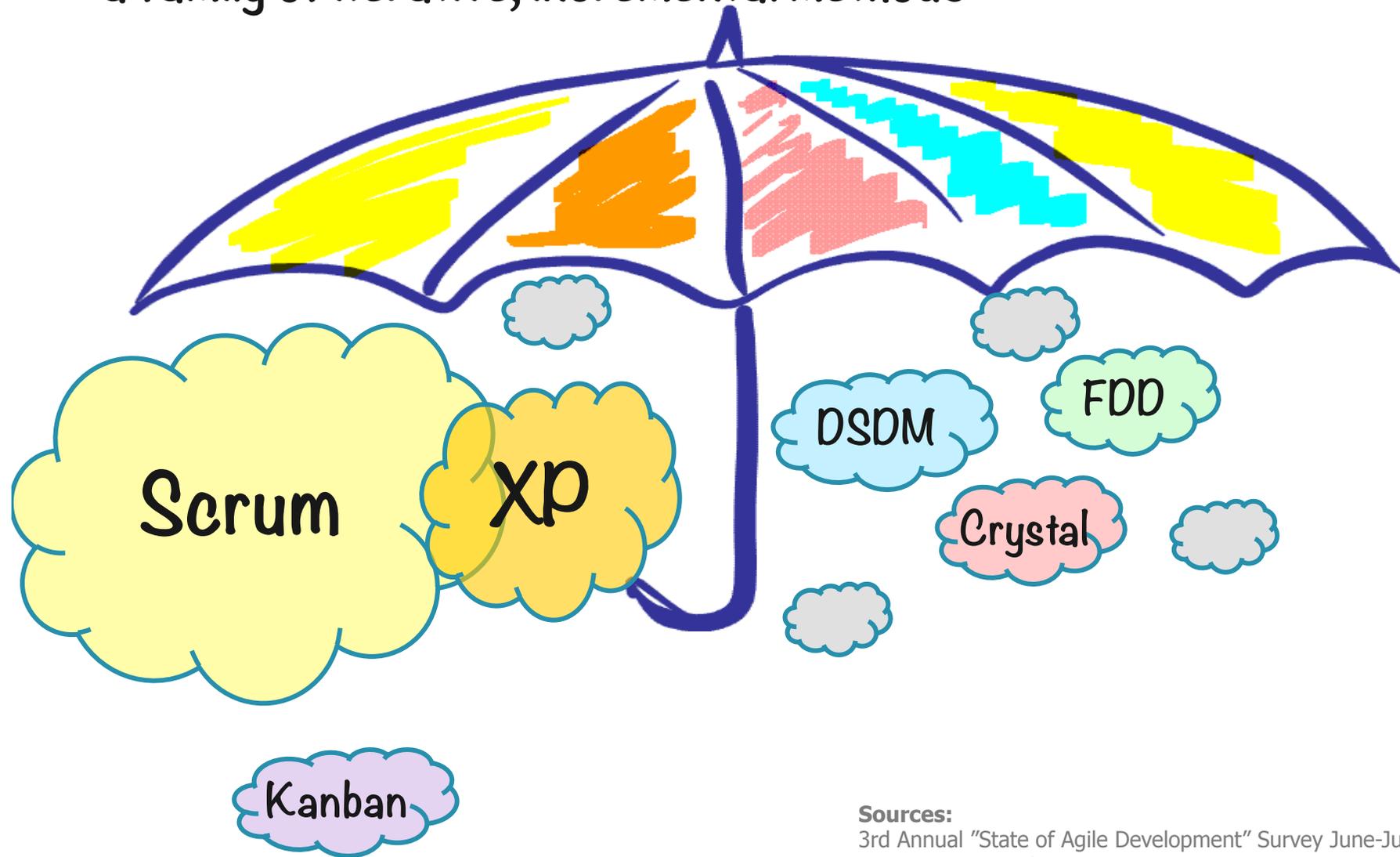
That is, while there is value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.

15

Principles behind the Agile Manifesto

- Our highest priority is to **satisfy the customer** through early and continuous delivery of valuable software.
 - **Welcome changing requirements**, even late in development. Agile processes harness change for the customer's competitive advantage.
 - **Deliver working software frequently**, from a couple of weeks to a couple of months, with a preference to the shorter timescale.
 - **Business people and developers must work together** daily throughout the project.
 - Build projects around **motivated individuals**. Give them the environment and support they need, and **trust** them to get the job done.
 - The most efficient and effective method of conveying information to and within a development team is **face-to-face conversation**.
- **Working software** is the primary measure of progress.
 - Agile processes promote **sustainable development**. The sponsors, developers, and users should be able to maintain a constant pace indefinitely.
 - Continuous attention to **technical excellence and good design** enhances agility.
 - **Simplicity**--the art of maximizing the amount of work not done--is essential.
 - The best architectures, requirements, and designs emerge from **self-organizing teams**.
 - At regular intervals, the team **reflects on how to become more effective**, then tunes and adjusts its behavior accordingly.

Agile "umbrella" – a family of iterative, incremental methods



Sources:

3rd Annual "State of Agile Development" Survey June-July 2008

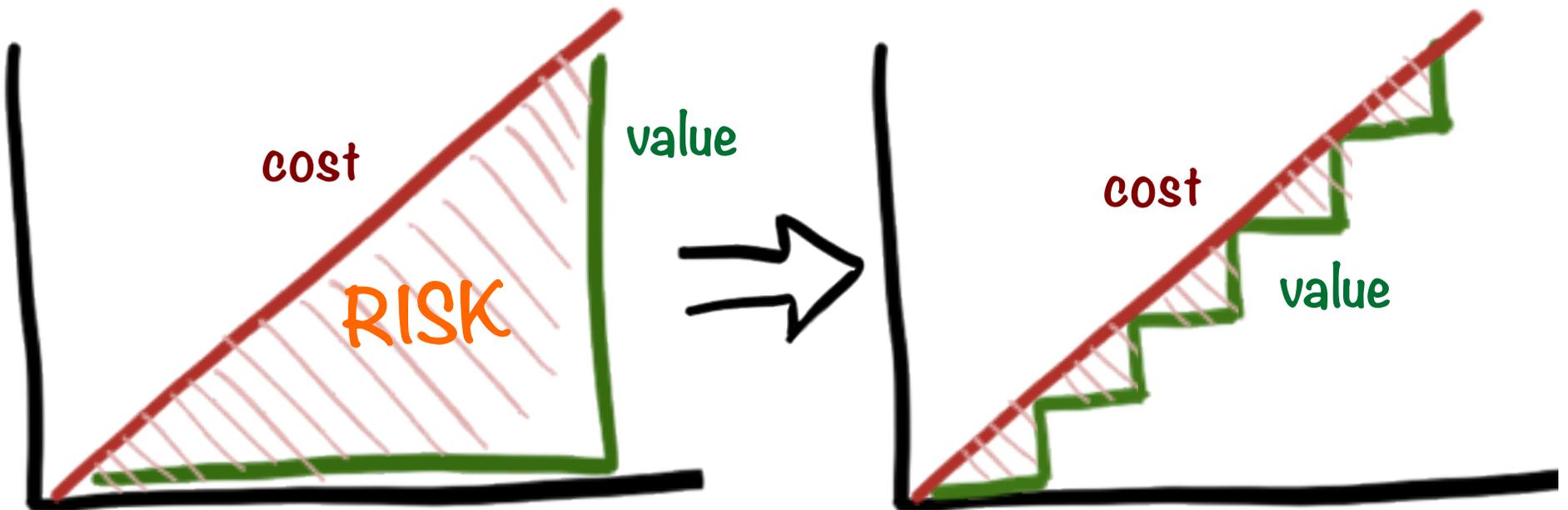
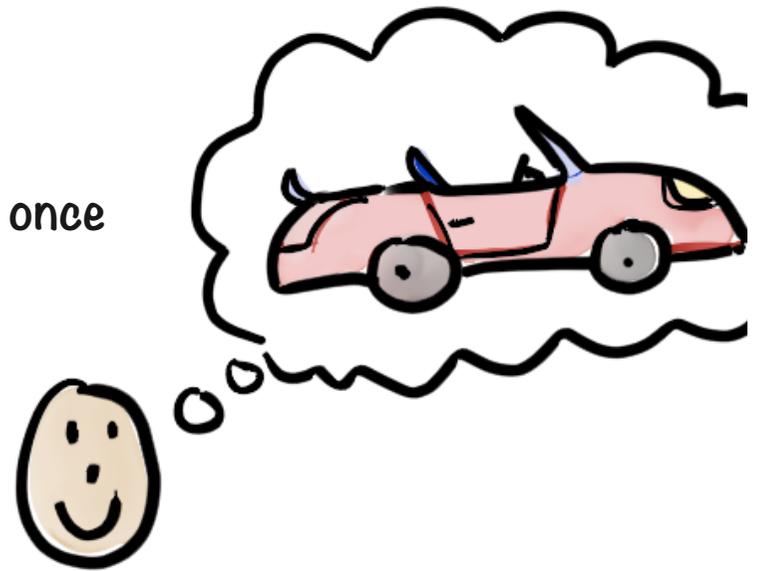
- 3061 respondents
- 80 countries

Iterative & Incremental

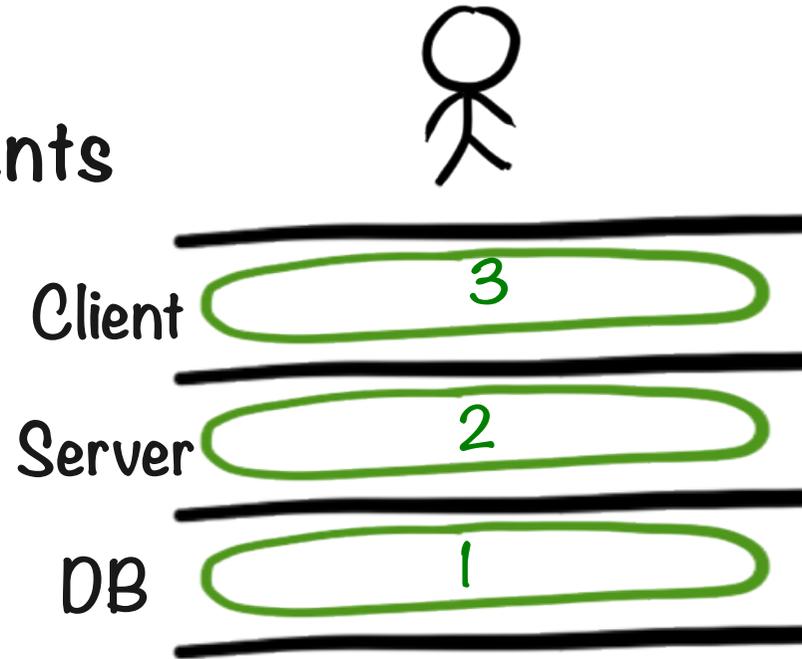
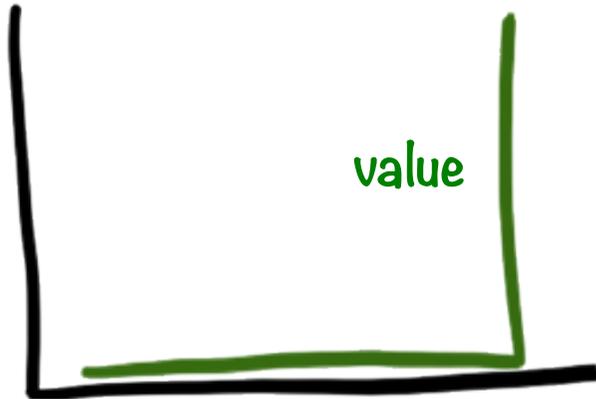
Agile = Iterative + Incremental

Don't try to get it all right from the beginning

Don't build it all at once



Not "horizontal" increments



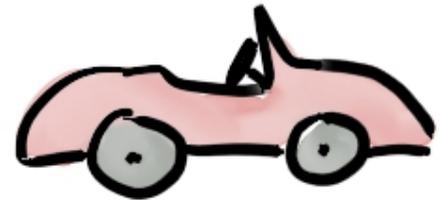
1



2

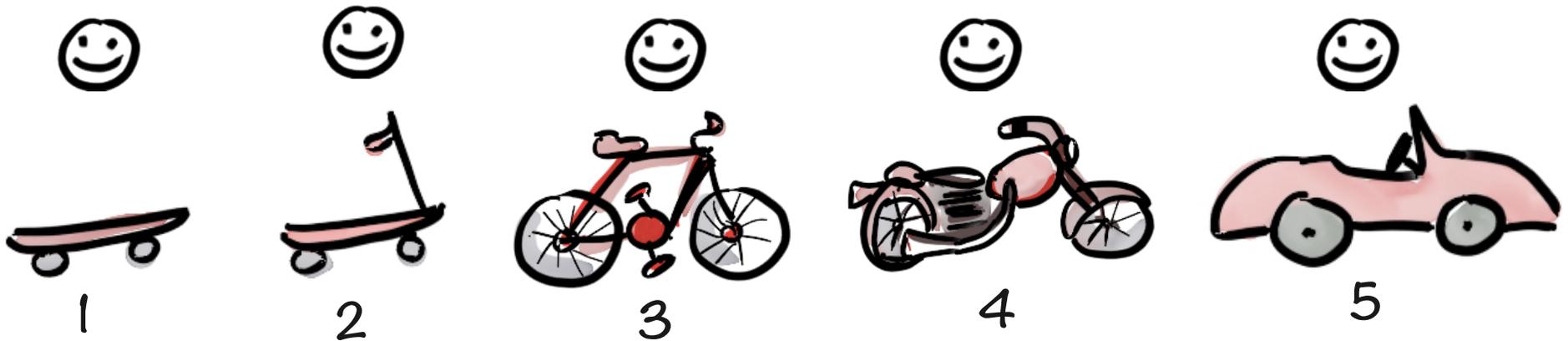
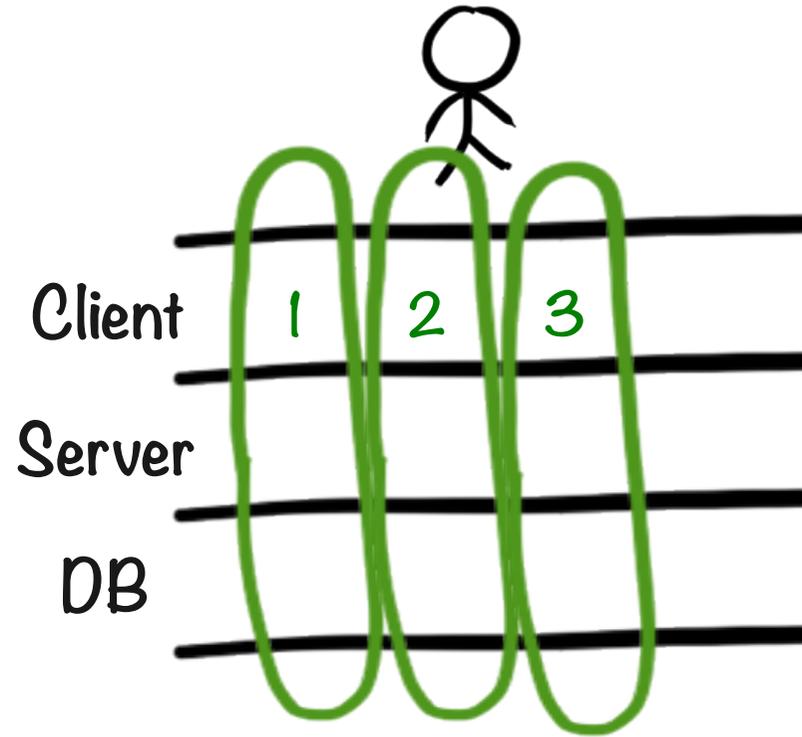
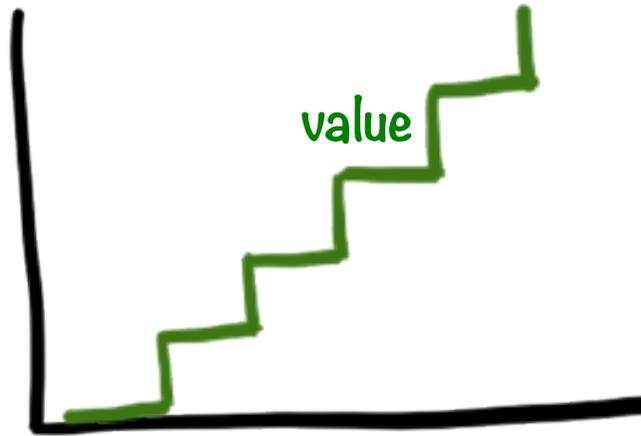


3

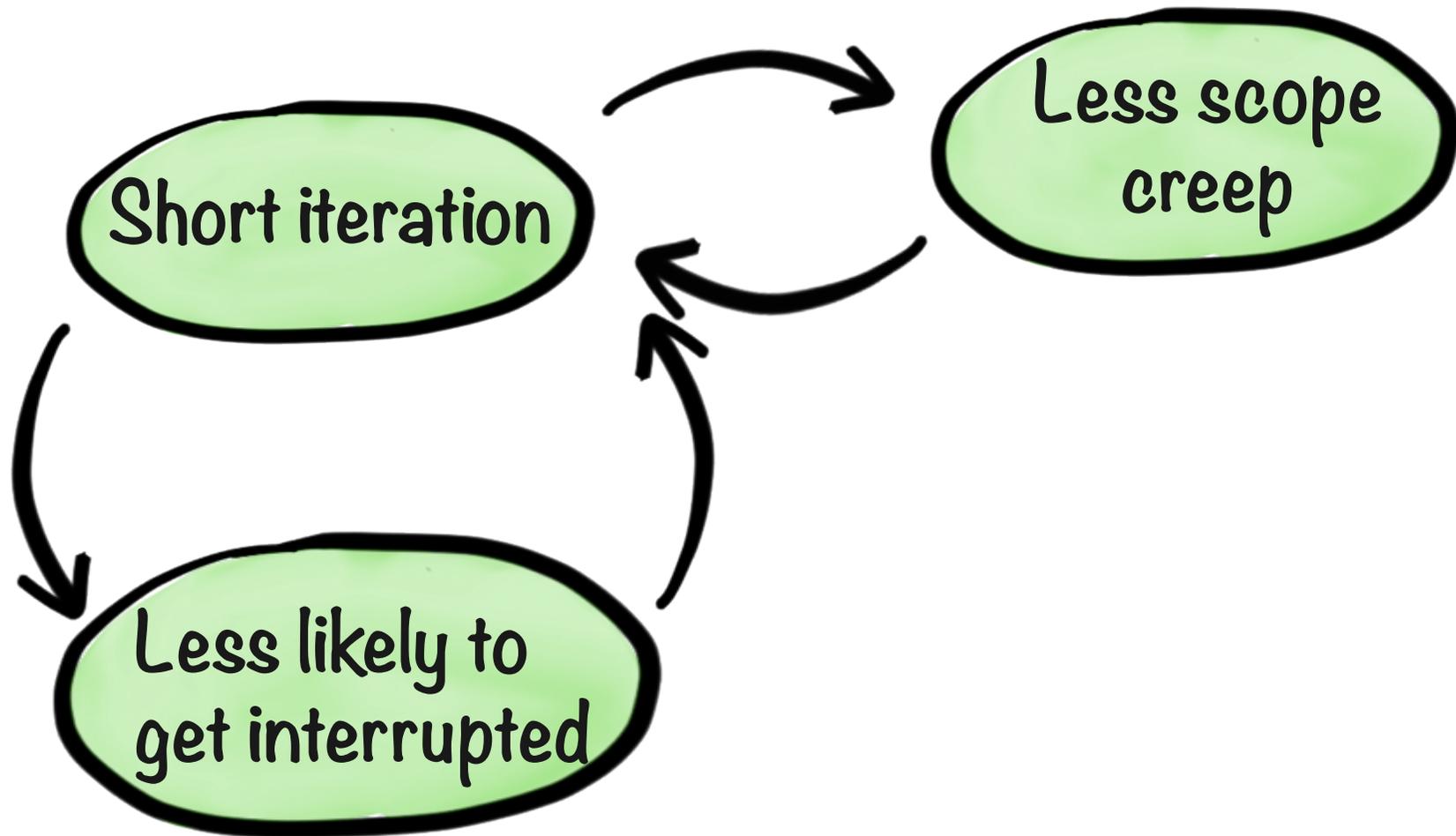


4

"Vertical" increments!



Keep iterations short
(2-3 weeks)

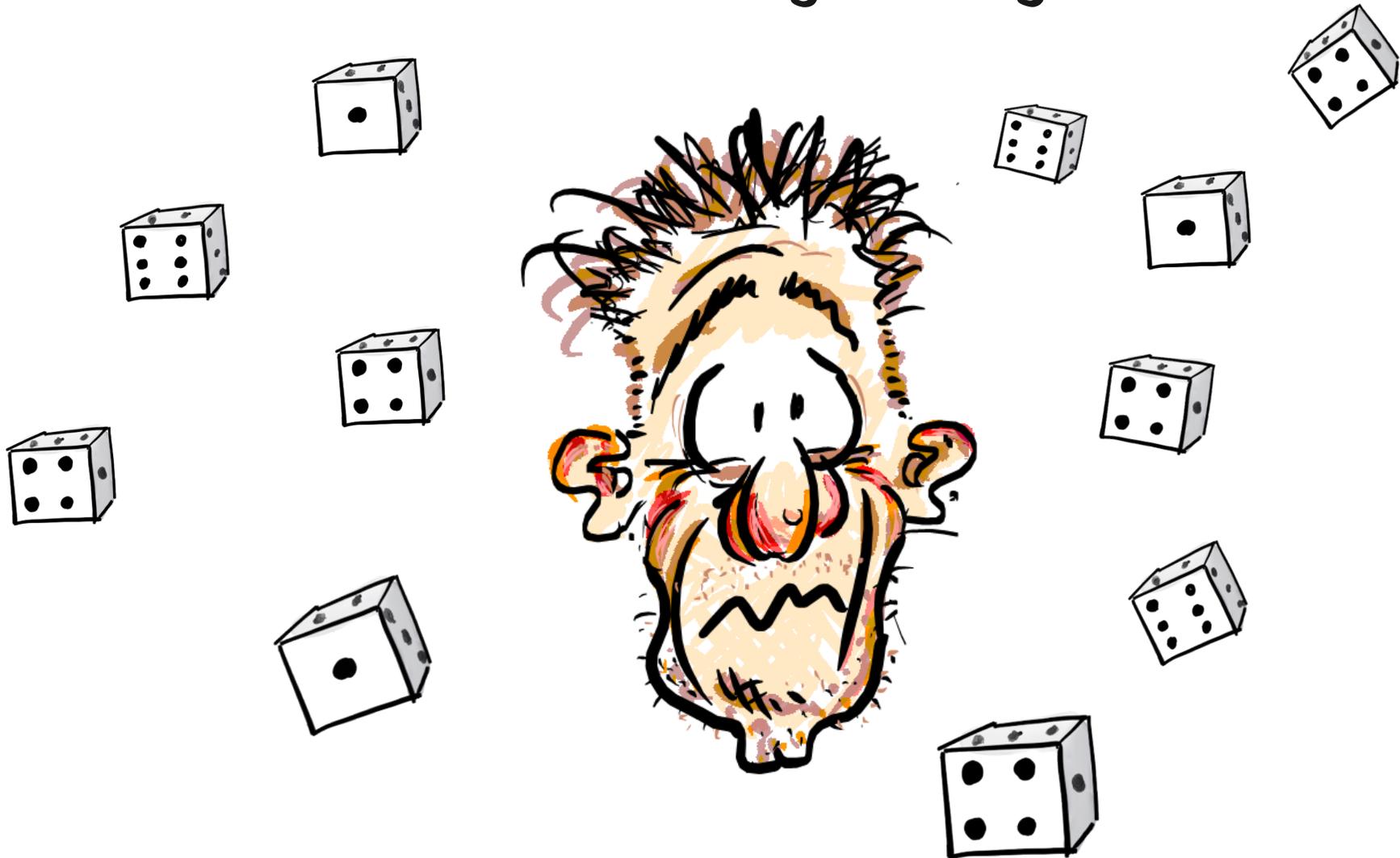


Planning is easier with frequent releases



Planning

Face it.
Estimates are almost always Wrong!



How estimates are affected by specification length

Spec



117 hrs

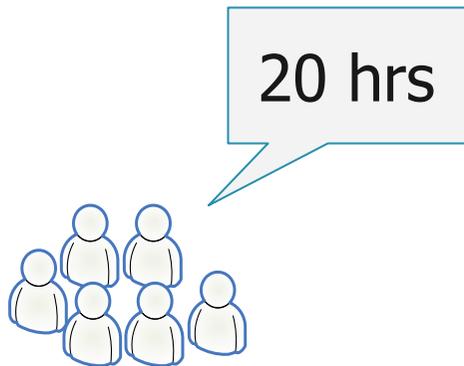
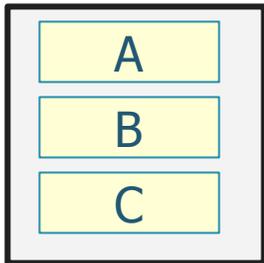
Same spec – more pages



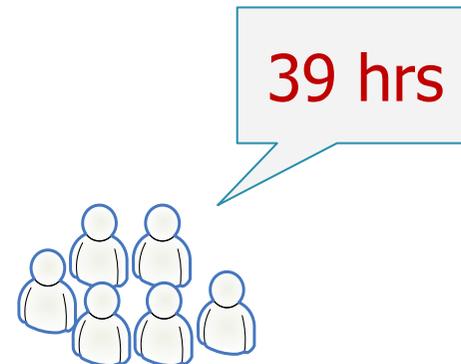
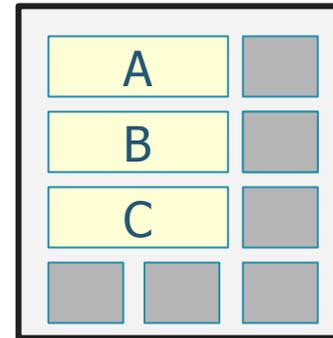
173 hrs

How estimates are affected by irrelevant information

Spec I

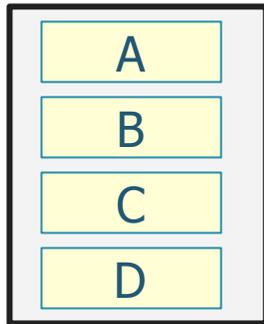


Same spec
+ irrelevant details

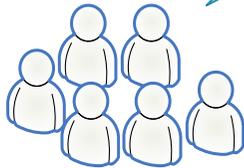


How estimates are affected by extra requirements

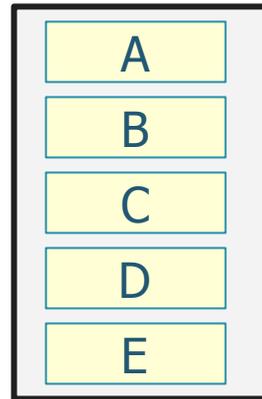
Spec 1



4 hrs



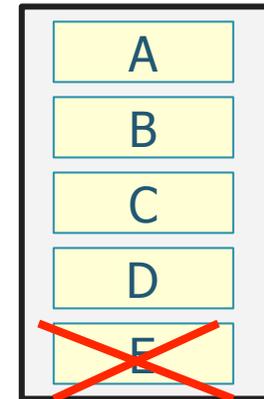
Spec 2



4 hrs



Spec 3



8 hrs



How estimates are affected by anchoring

Spec



456 hrs



Same spec



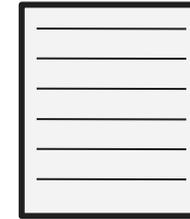
500 hrs
Never mind me



555 hrs



Same spec



50 hrs
Never mind me



99 hrs



Velocity

to know the future, you need to know the past

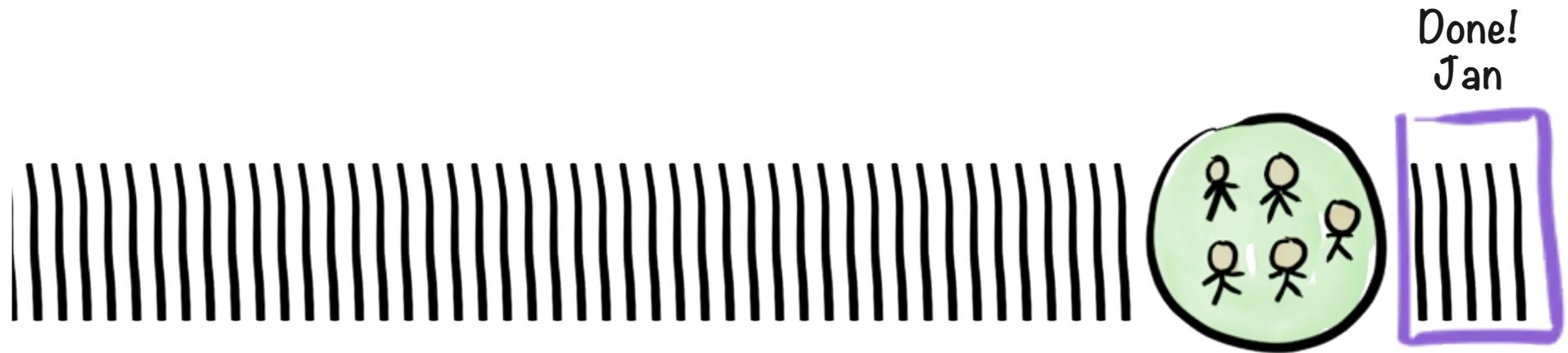


Velocity-based release planning

Backlog



Velocity-based release planning

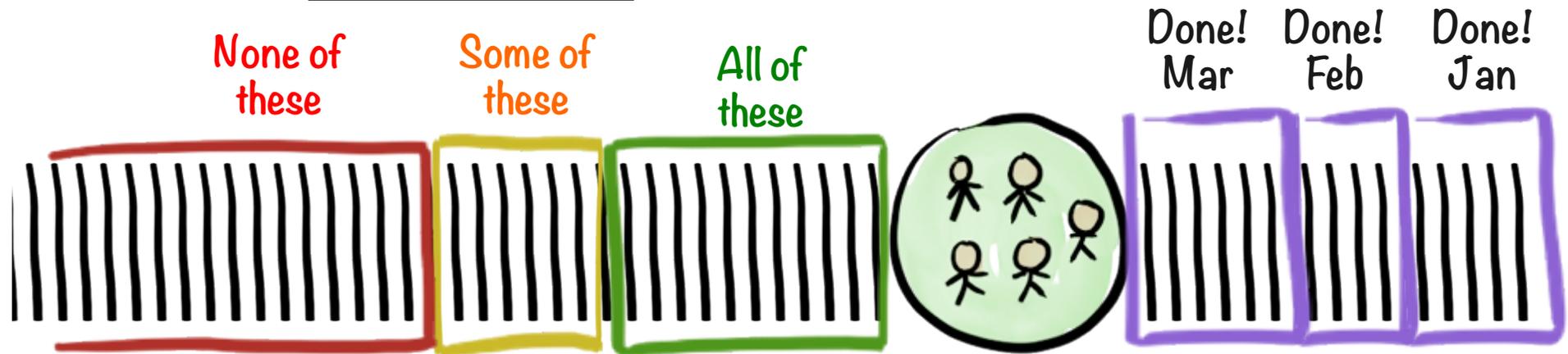


Velocity-based release planning

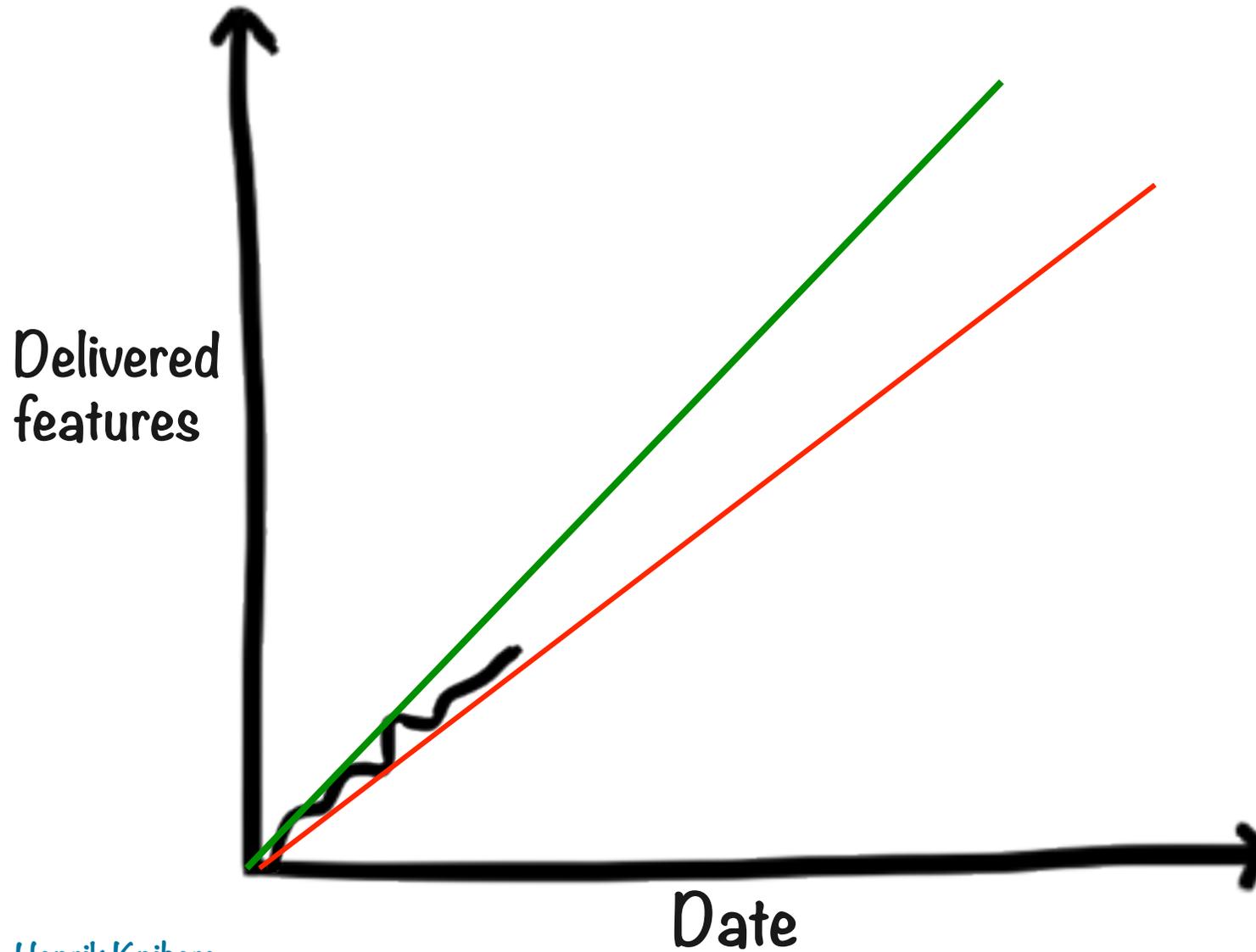


Velocity-based release planning

Q2 forecast

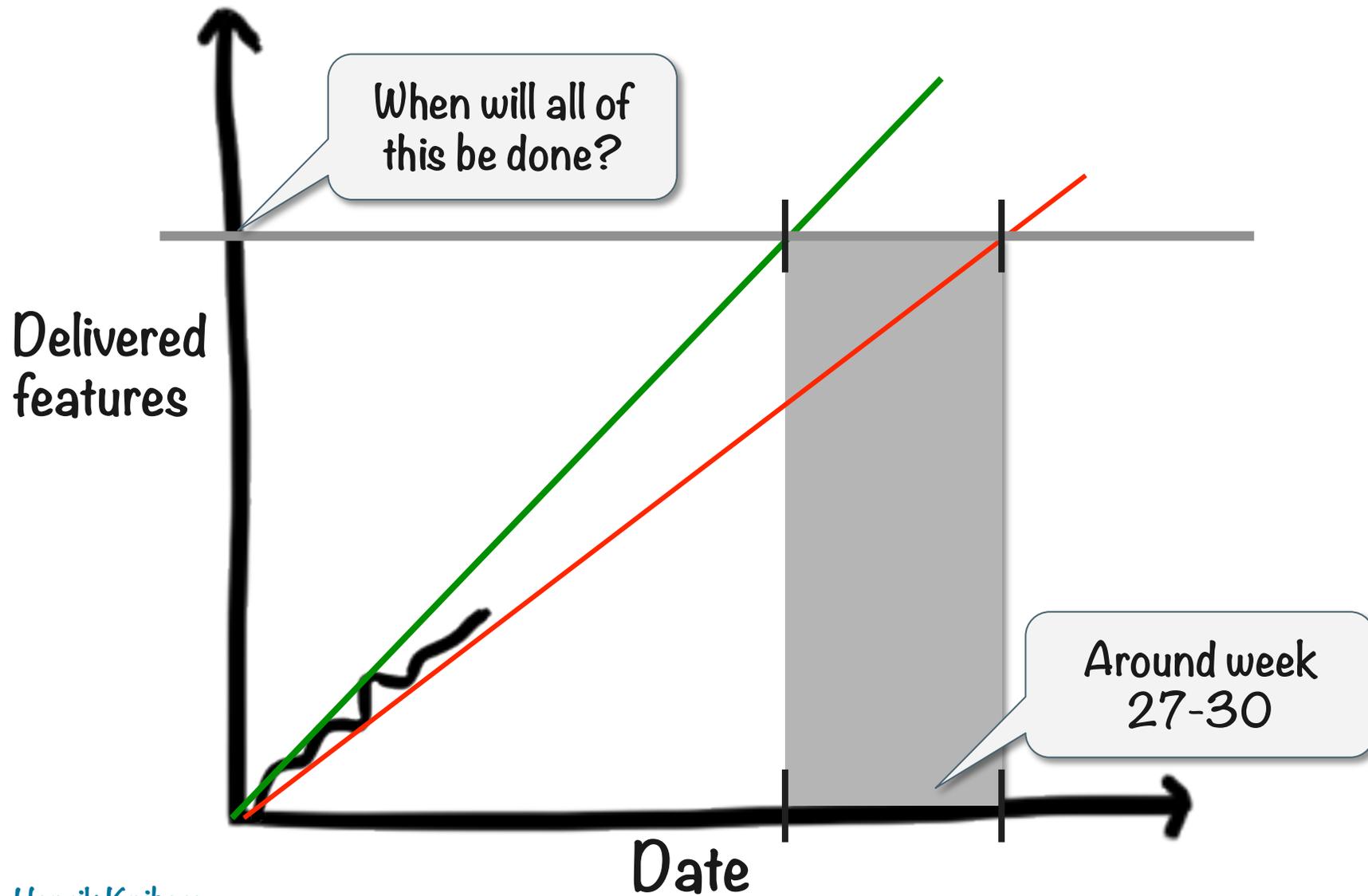


Release burnup chart

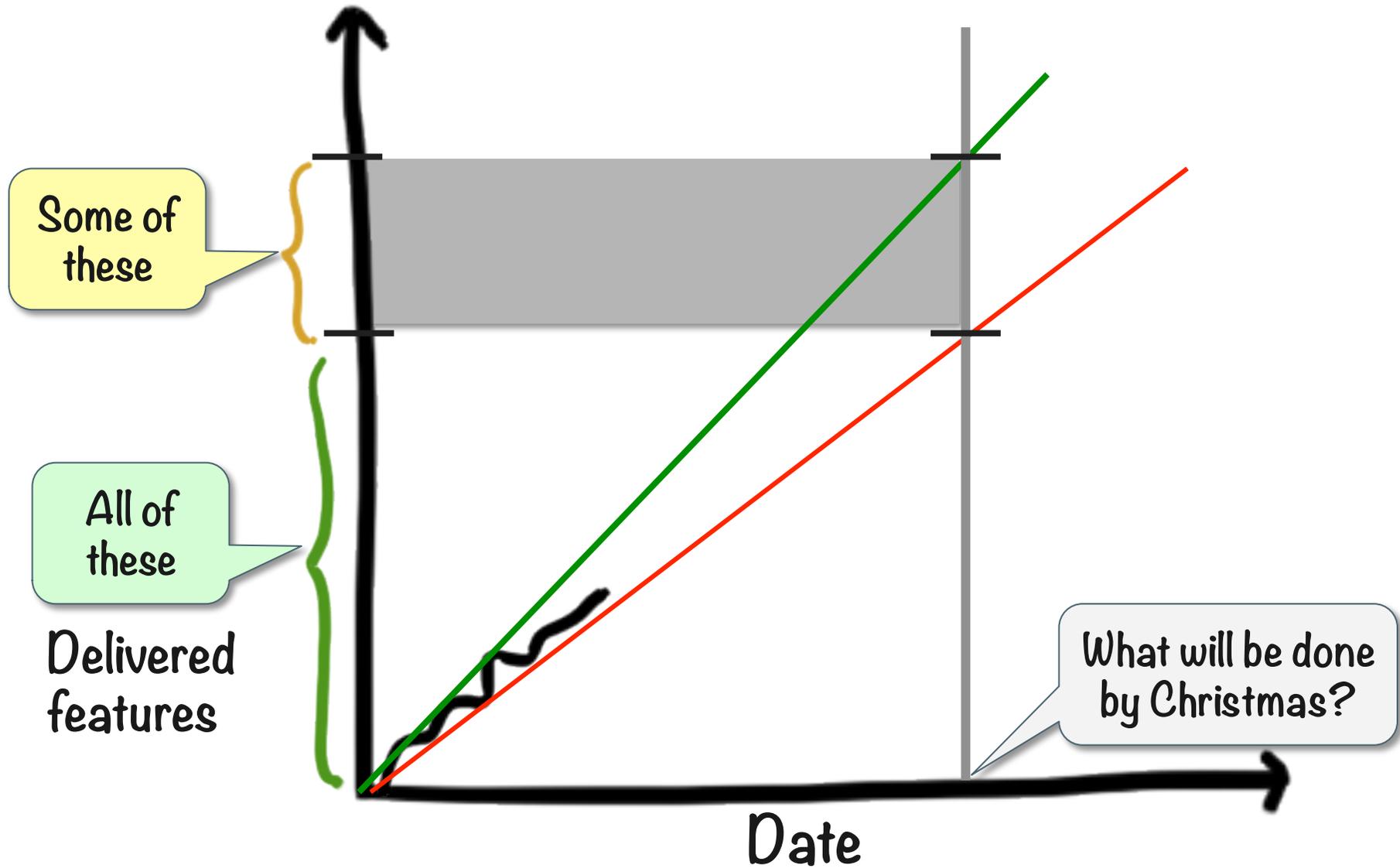


Henrik Kniberg

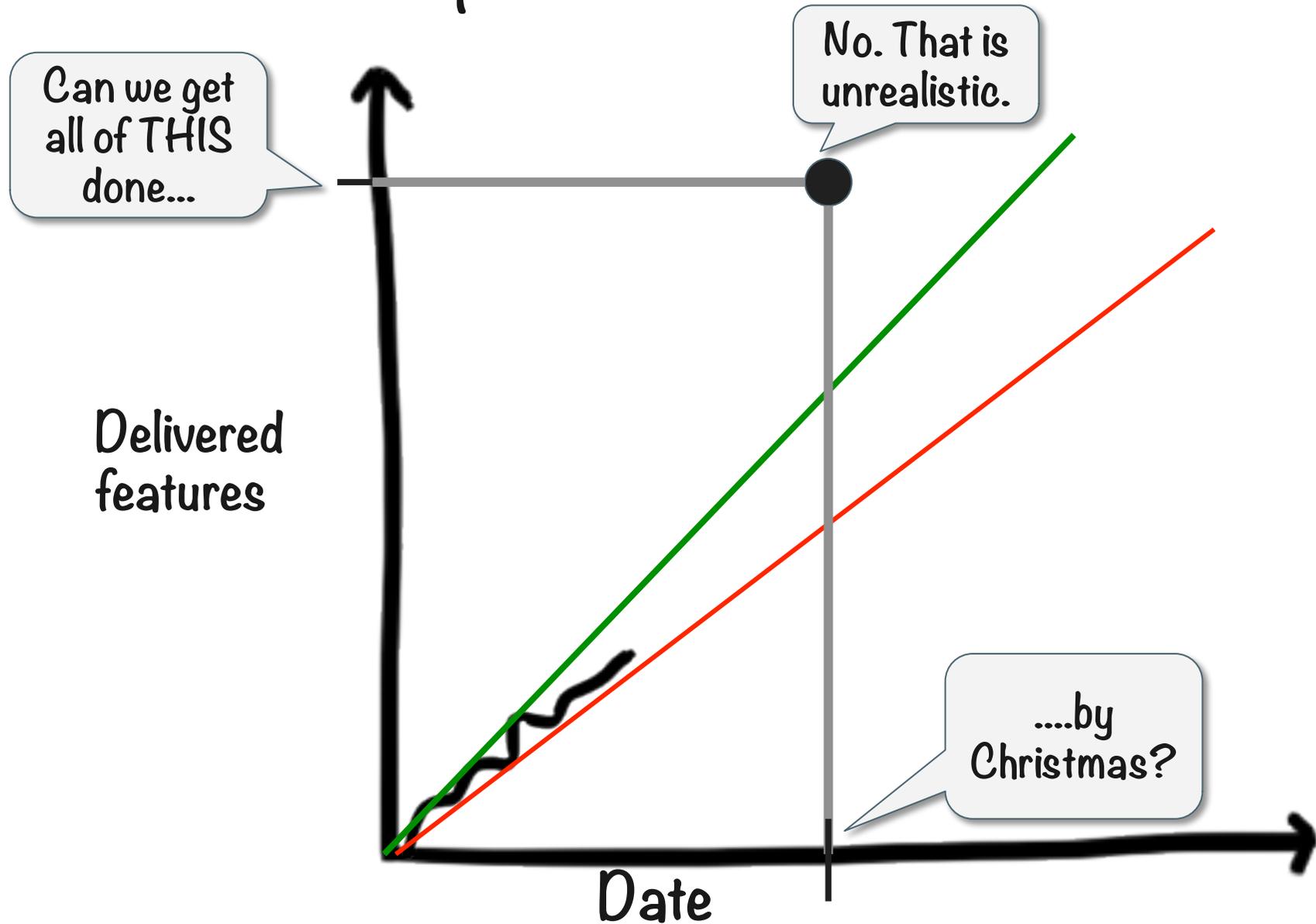
Fixed scope forecast



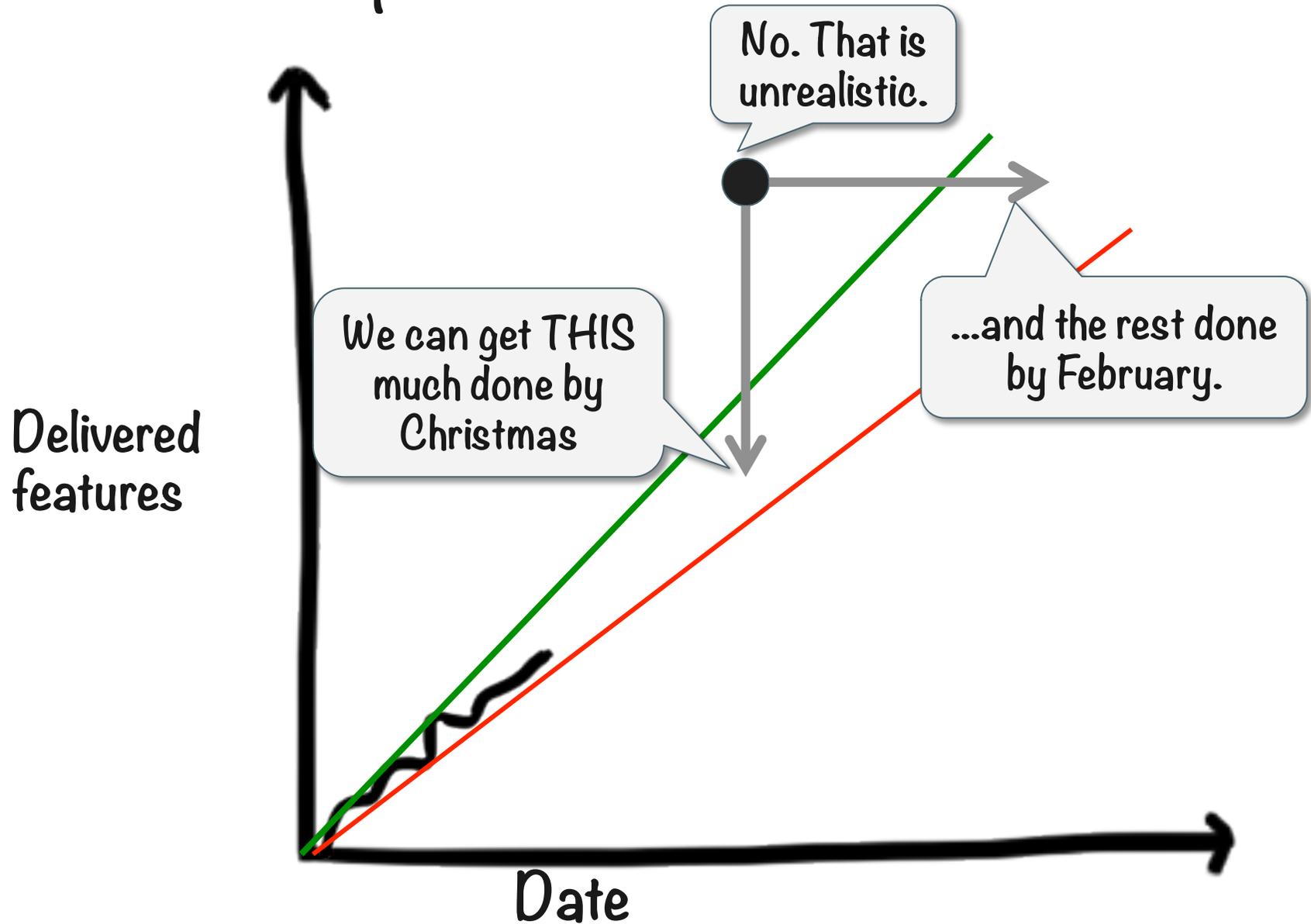
Fixed time forecast



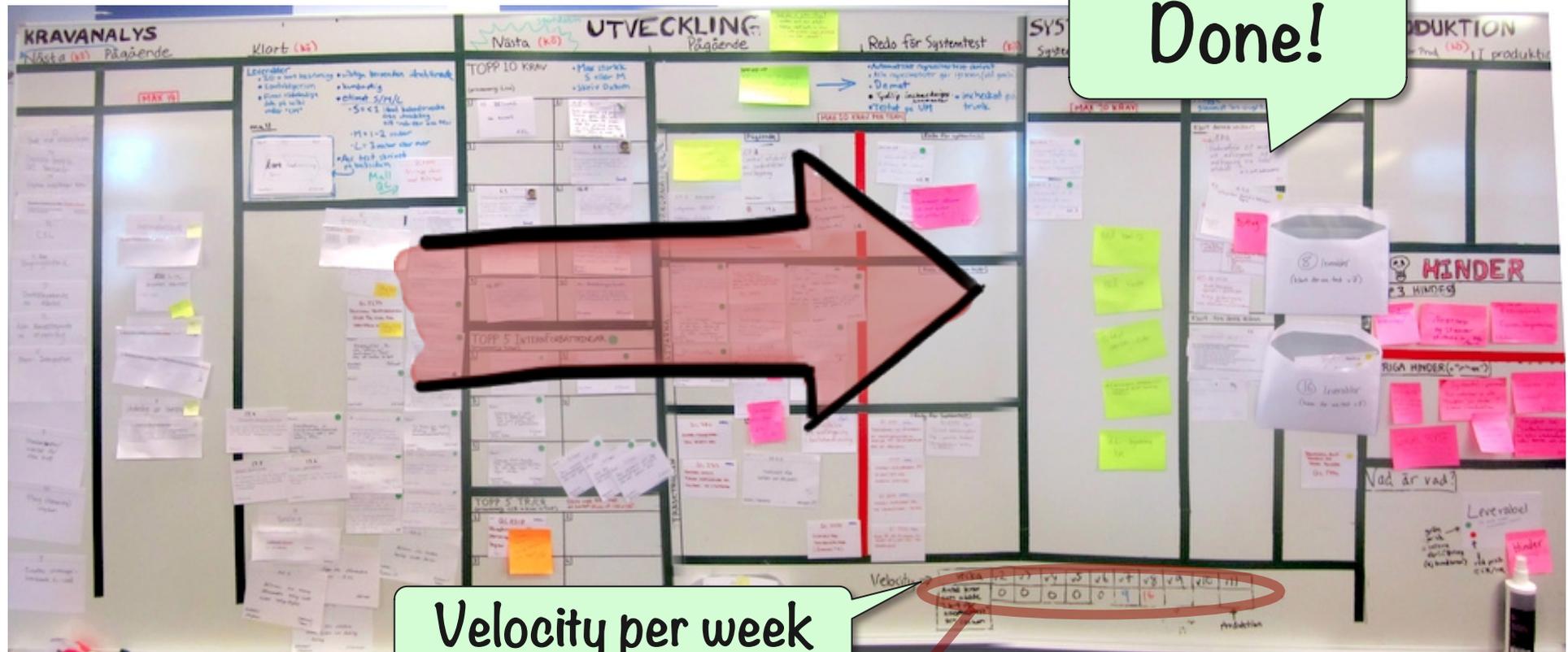
Fixed time & scope forecast



Fixed time & scope forecast



Example: Measuring velocity by counting cards

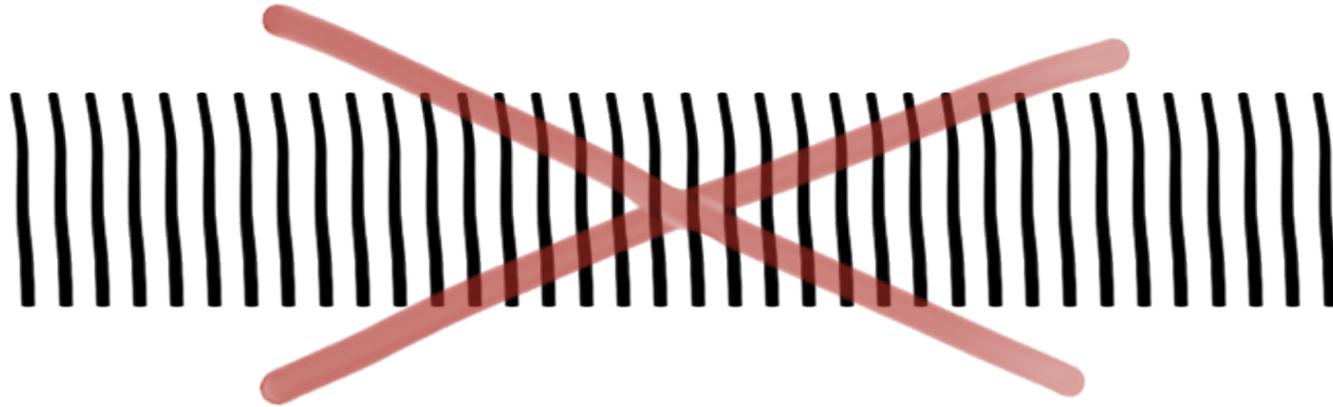


Velocity per week

Vecka	v10	v11	v12	v13	v14	v15	v16	v17	v18
Antal nya funktioner som nått till 'Redo för ArcTest'	4	0	2	4	5	0			
		↑ Prodsättn.							VEL

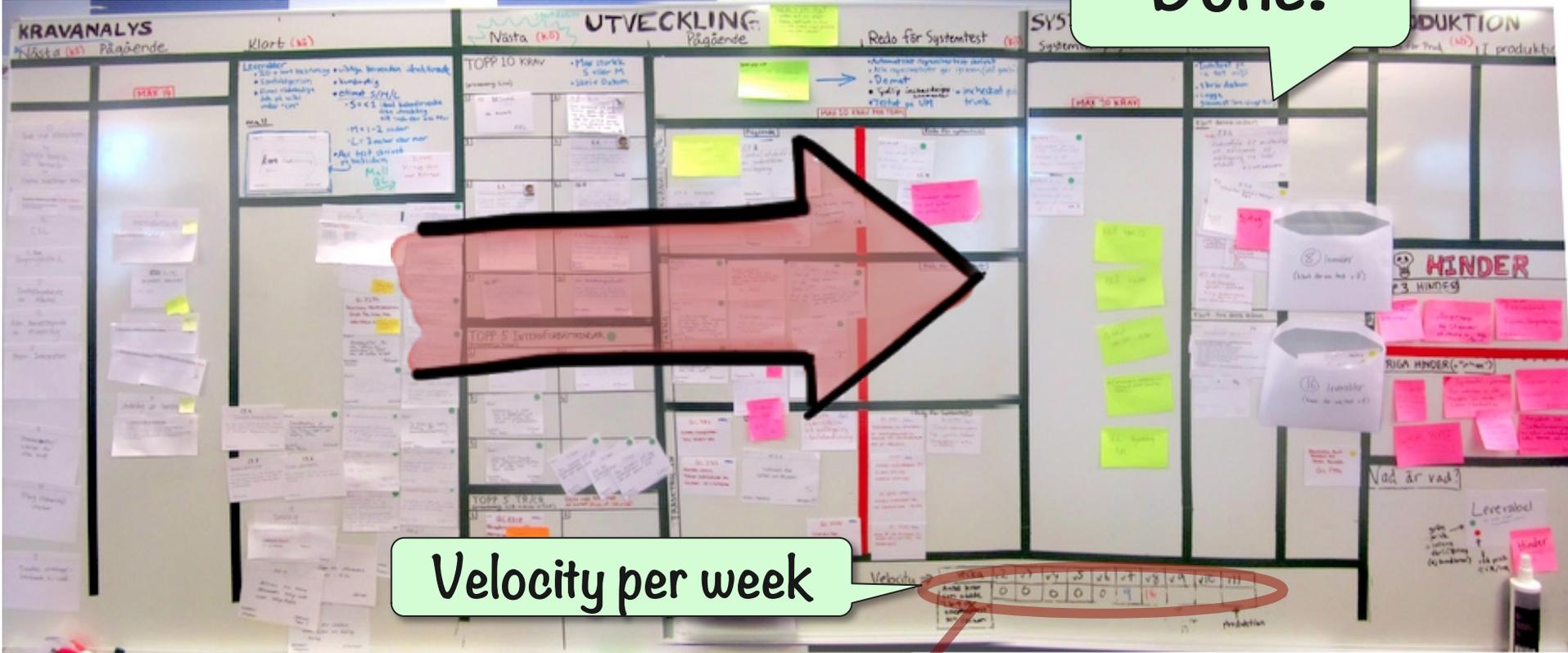
Estimating

Fact: Features have different sizes



Option 1: Ignore the size difference.
It evens out over time.

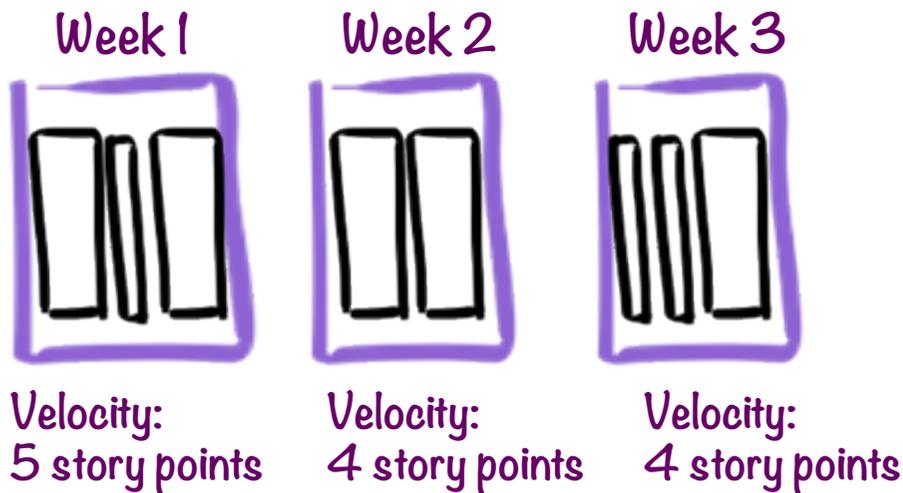
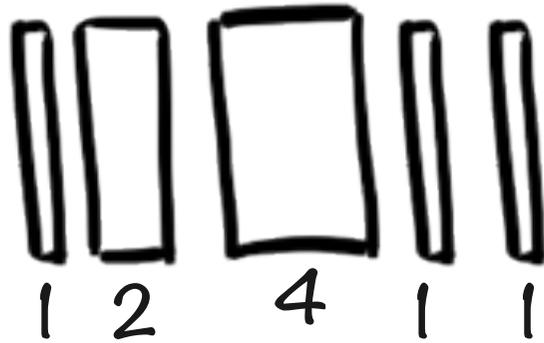
Done!



Velocity per week

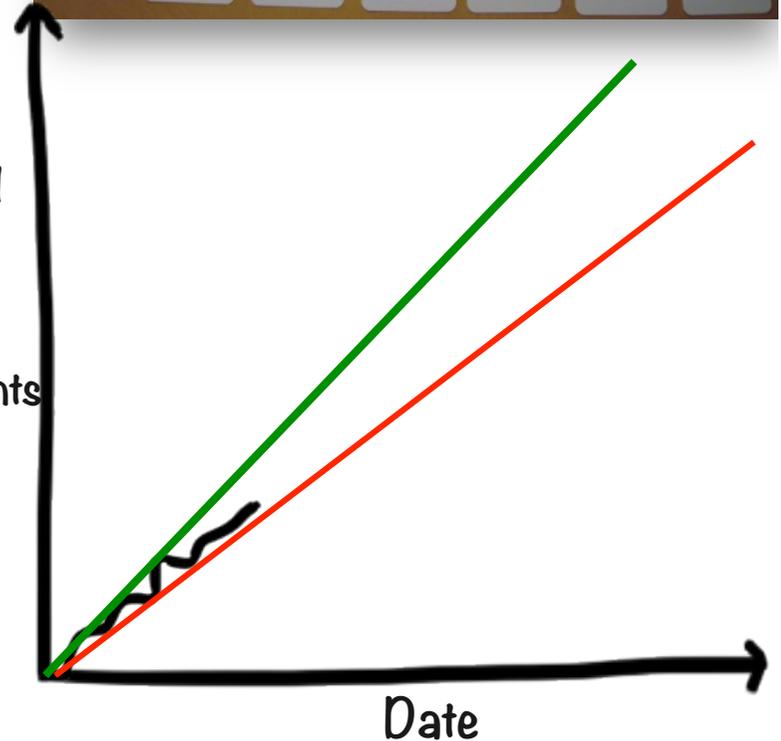
Vecka	v10	v11	v12	v13	v14	v15	v16	v17	v18
Antal nya funktioner som nått till 'Redo för Accept'	4	0	2	4	5	0			
	↑ Prodsättn.					VEL			

Option 2: Estimate relative feature Size.



~~Delivered features~~

Delivered Story points



Two different questions: Size & Time

2 kg 4 kg

1 kg 1 kg

1: What is weight of each stone?

2: What is our delivery capacity?

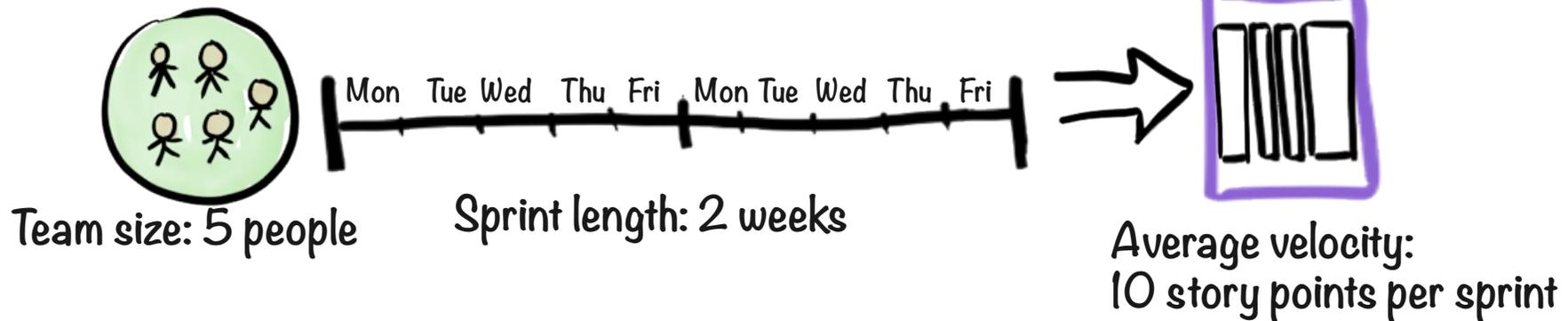
200 kg / hour



Agile estimating strategy

- **Don't estimate time.**
 - Estimate *relative size* of features.
 - Measure velocity per sprint.
 - *Derive* release plan.
- **(Scrum rule) Estimates done by the people who are going to *do the work*.**
 - Not by the people who want the work done.
- **Estimate & reestimate continuously during project**
 - Don't trust early estimates
- **Prefer verbal communication over detailed, written specifications.**
- **Avoid false precision**
 - Better to be roughly right than precisely wrong

Cost control without time reports



1 sprint = 200,000kr
(salary cost of 5 people for 2 weeks)

1 story point = 20,000kr
(200,000kr / 10 story points)

1 story point = 5 mandays
(50 mandays / 10 story points)

Better to be Roughly Right
than Precisely Wrong

Feature	Size	Cost	Cost
Delete user	3 sp	15 mandays	60,000kr
PDF export	2 sp	10 mandays	40,000kr
Outlook integration	8 sp	40 mandays	160,000kr

Value

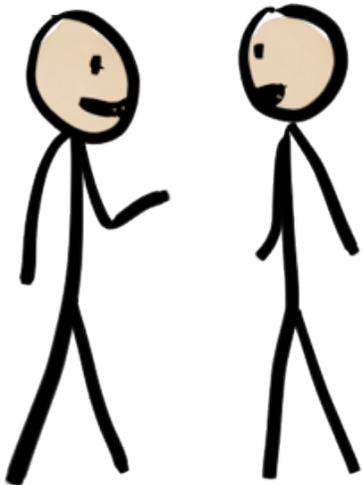
Features have different value (and value is independent of size)



Weight: 1 gram
Value: 100 000 kr



Weight: 2000 grams
Value: 5 kr



2 minute standup discussion (pair/trio):

- Give a real-life example of a feature that is **small and very valuable**
- Give a real-life example of a feature that is **large and not very valuable.**

Maximize Value, not Output



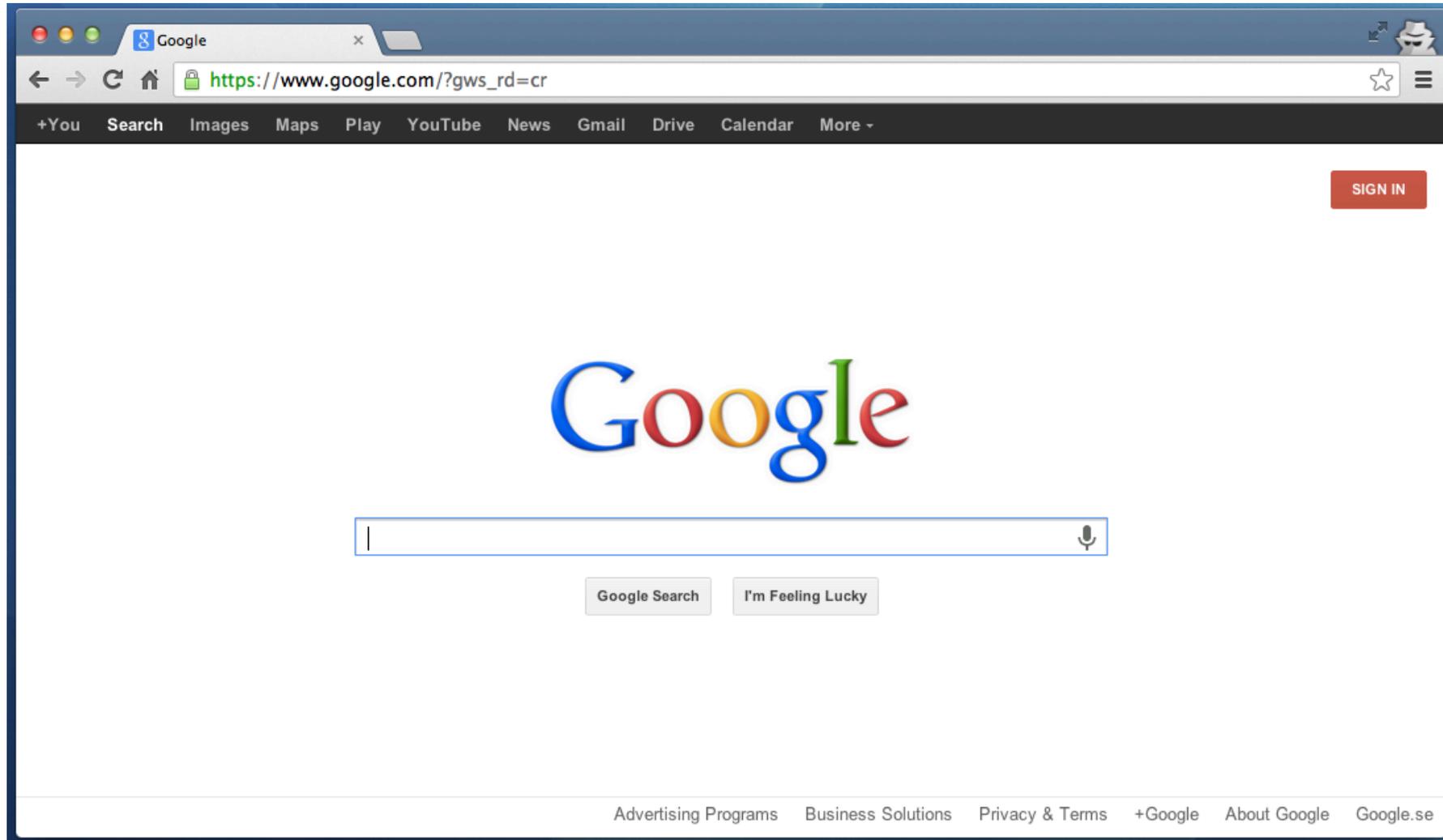
Less is More

Perfection is attained,
not when there is nothing more to add,
but when there is nothing left to take away

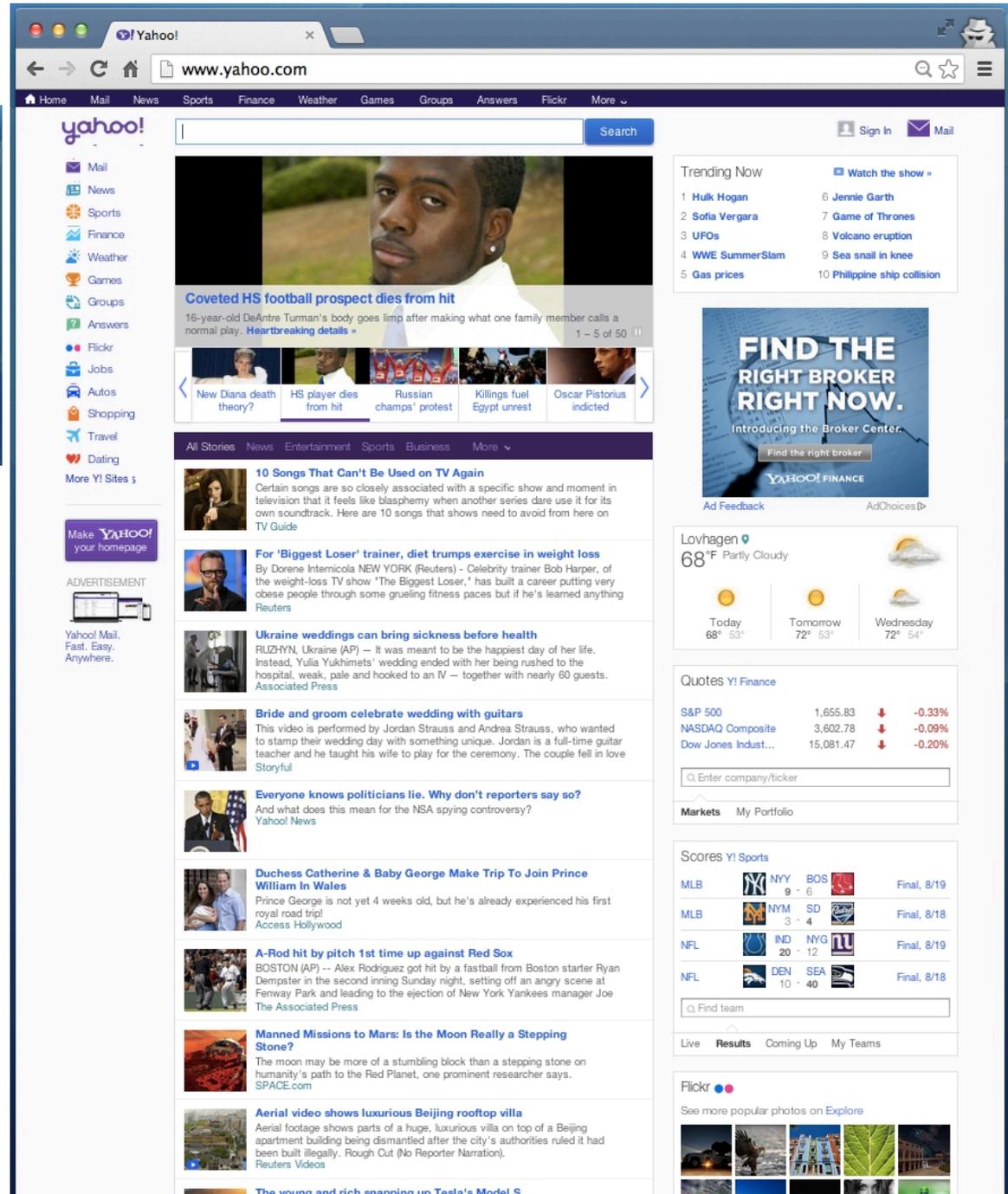
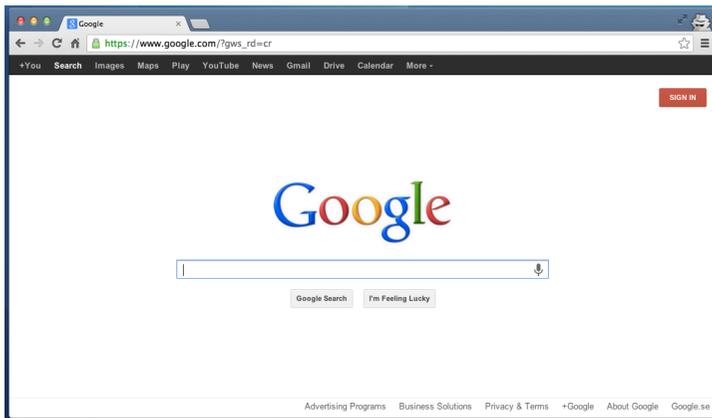


Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

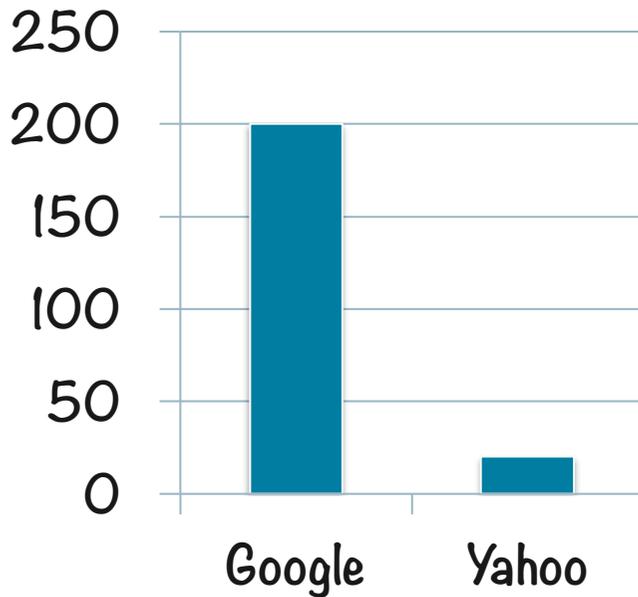
Example: Google



Google vs Yahoo



Value (billion \$)



Example: Apple

2007



2008

- App Store
- 3G



2009

- Copy/Paste
- Search



2010

- Multitasking
- Video calls



Example: Blocket

blocket.se [Lägg in annons](#) [Annonser](#) [Köp nytt!](#) [Shopping](#) [Butiker](#) [Kontakta oss](#) [Logga in](#)

Priset på annonsen är beroende på [kategori](#). Betala med kort eller telefon.
Annonsen granskas efter Blockets [regler](#) och ligger ute i två månader.

Kategori: «Välj»

Privatperson Företag

Namn:

E-post:
E-postadressen visas ej i annonsen

Upprepa E-post:

Telefon: Ange även riktnummer Dölj telefonnumret

Tips! **Anonymt nummer:** Visa ett anonymt telefonnummer i annonsen som vidarekopplas till mitt vanliga nummer. 30 kr, [mer info](#).

Säljes Uthyres Bytes Önskar hyra Köpes

Län: Södermanland

Kommun: «Välj kommun»

Rubrik:
"Säljes" eller "Köpes" ska inte skrivas i rubriken

Text:

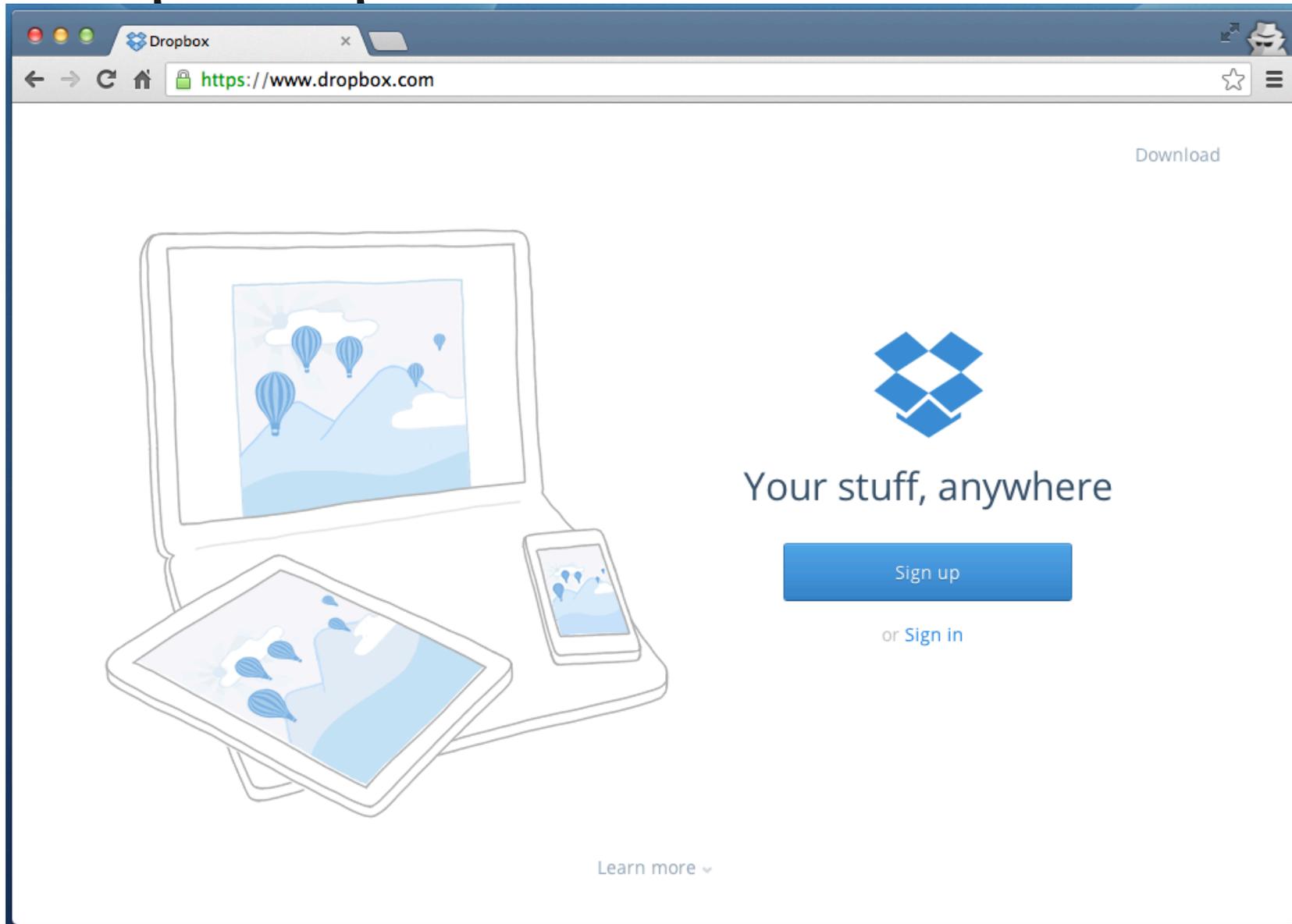
Näm i annonstexten om du endast kan kontaktas via telefon

Pris: kr

Bilder: [Ladda upp första bilden här](#)

Kostnadsfritt! **Film:** No file chosen (frivilligt)

Example: Dropbox



Don't give the team a Solution to Build



Give the team a Problem to Solve

We need to get to the other village without getting wet.



OK



- Options:
- Bridge
 - Ferry
 - Tunnel
 - Move the villages together



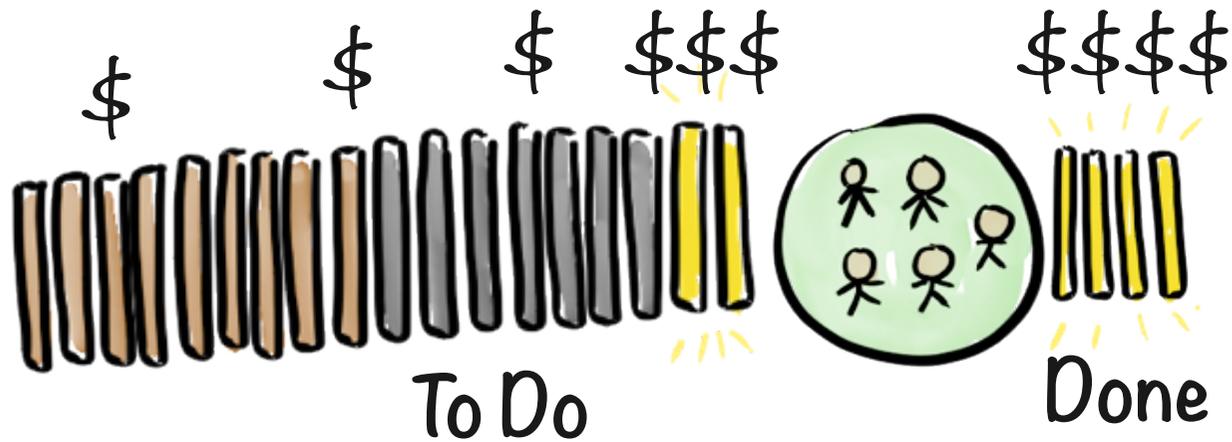
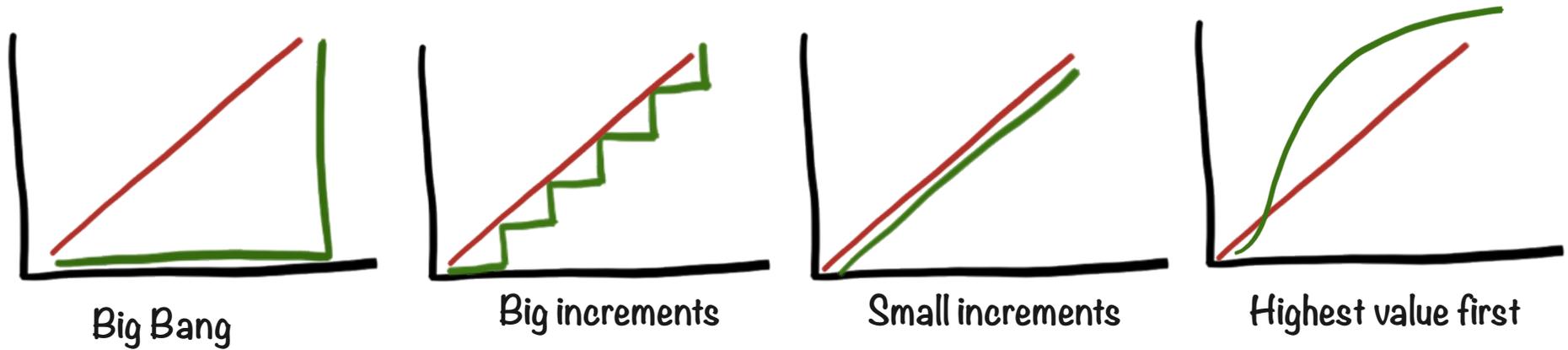
Always include the Why



As X
I want Y
so that Z

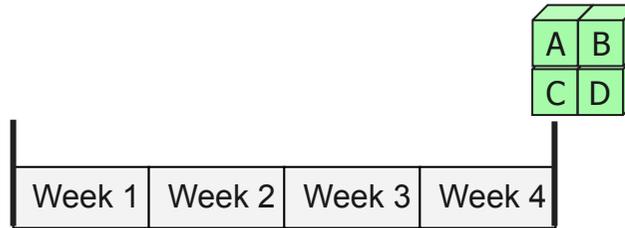
As online buyer
I want to save my shopping cart
so that I can continue shopping later

Improving the Value Curve



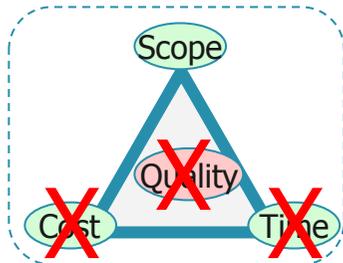
Timeboxing

Plan
(doomed to fail, but we don't know it yet)



Big Bang scenario

"We will deliver ABCD in 4 weeks"

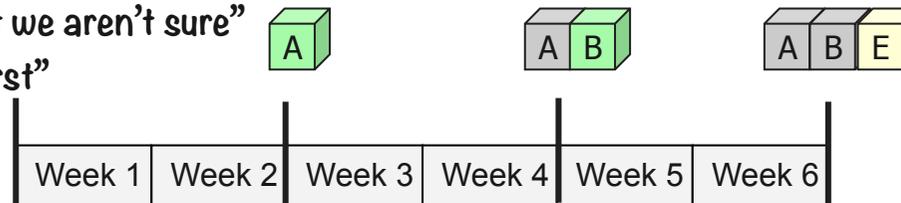
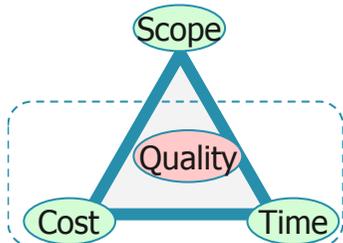


Agile scenario

"We always deliver something every sprint (2 weeks)"

"We think we can finish ABCD in 4 weeks, but we aren't sure"

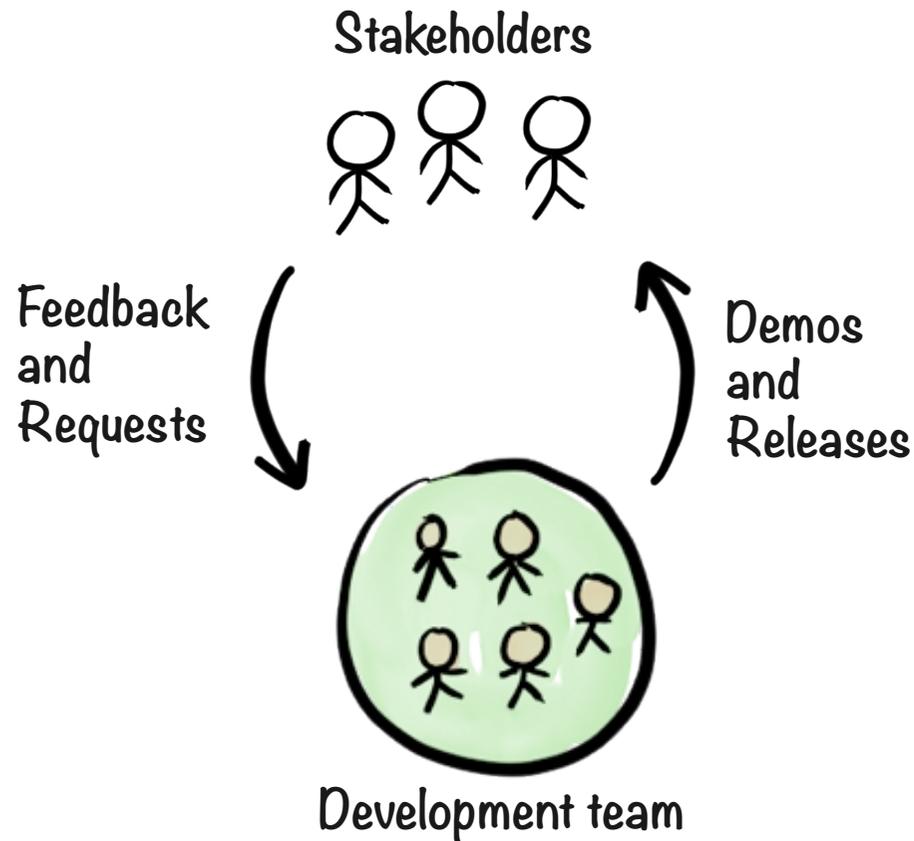
"We always deliver the most important items first"



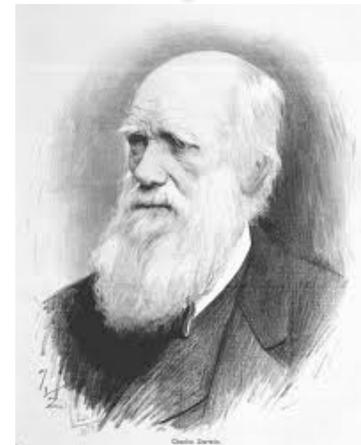
Oops, our velocity is lower than we thought. It looks like we'll only finish AB by week 4. What should we do now?

Focus on Feedback!

Delivery frequency = Speed of learning



It is not the strongest species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the ones most responsive to change.



Charles Darwin

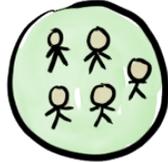
Agile reduces risk



Business risk



Technical risk

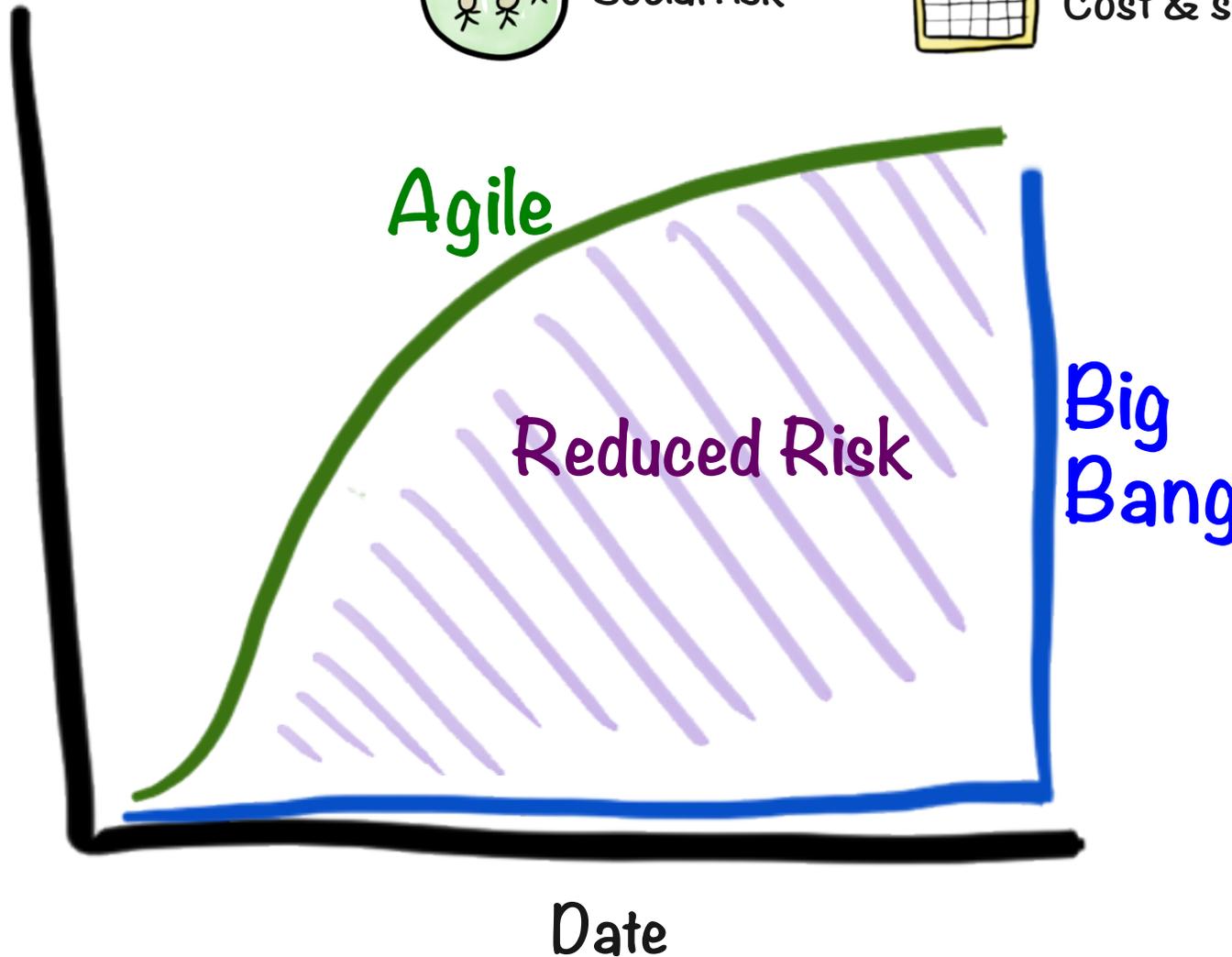


Social risk



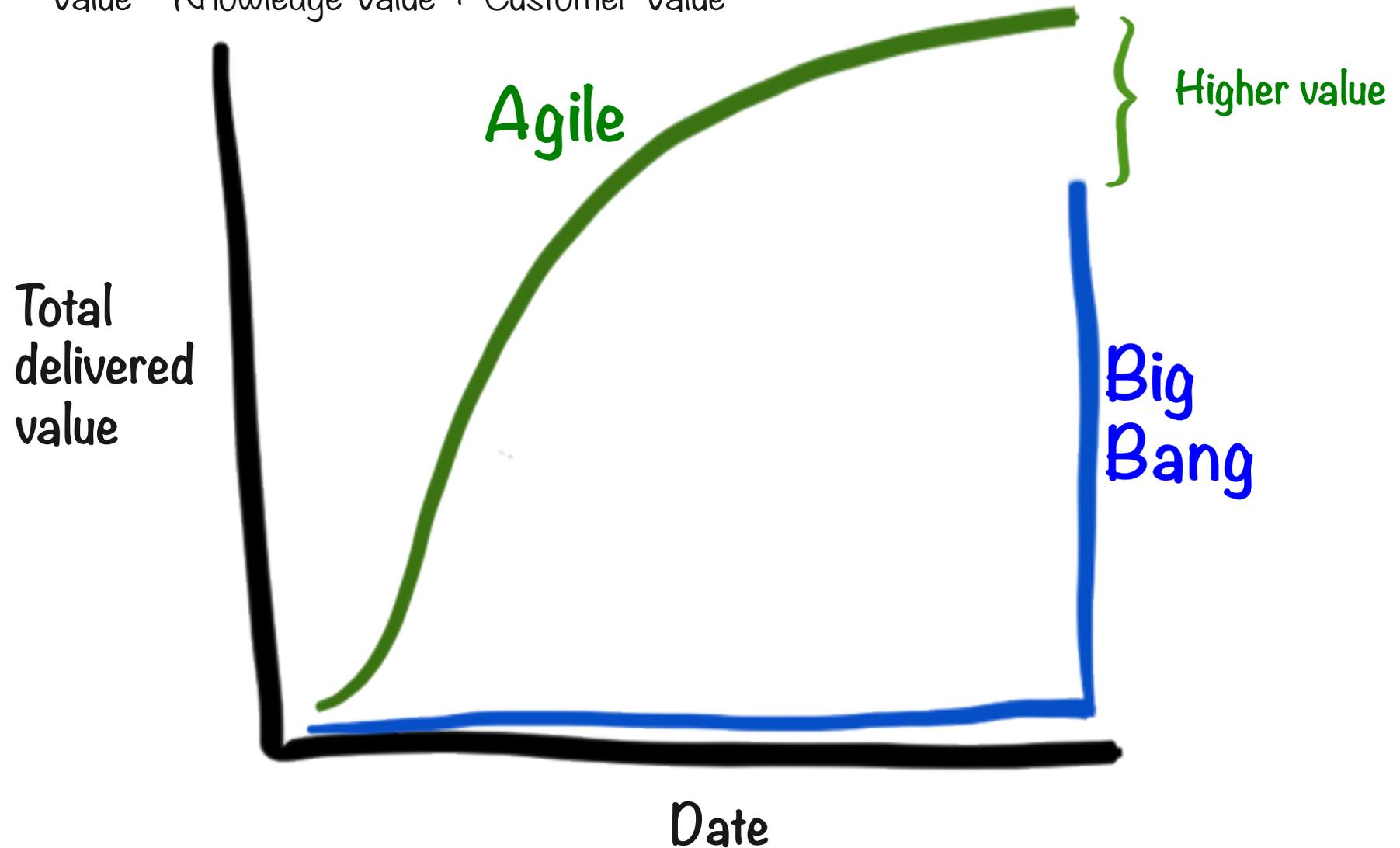
Cost & schedule risk

Total delivered value



Faster learning = Higher value

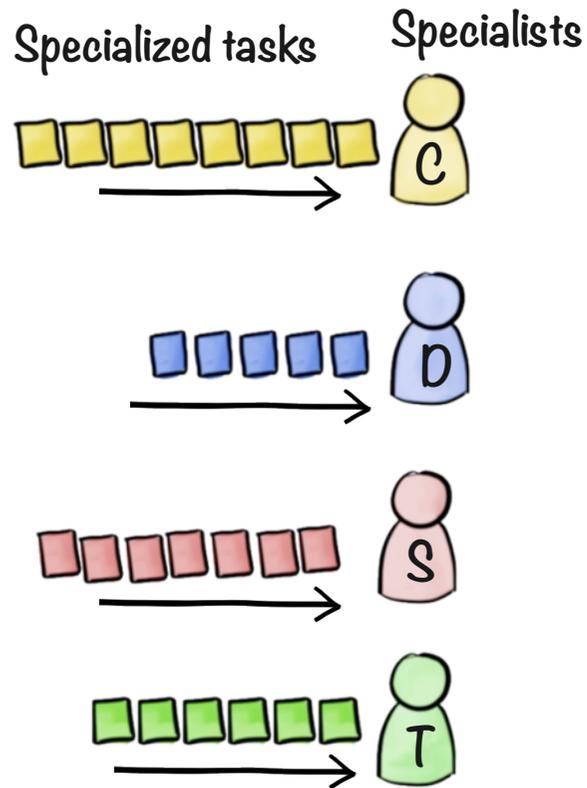
$$\text{Value} = \text{Knowledge Value} + \text{Customer Value}$$



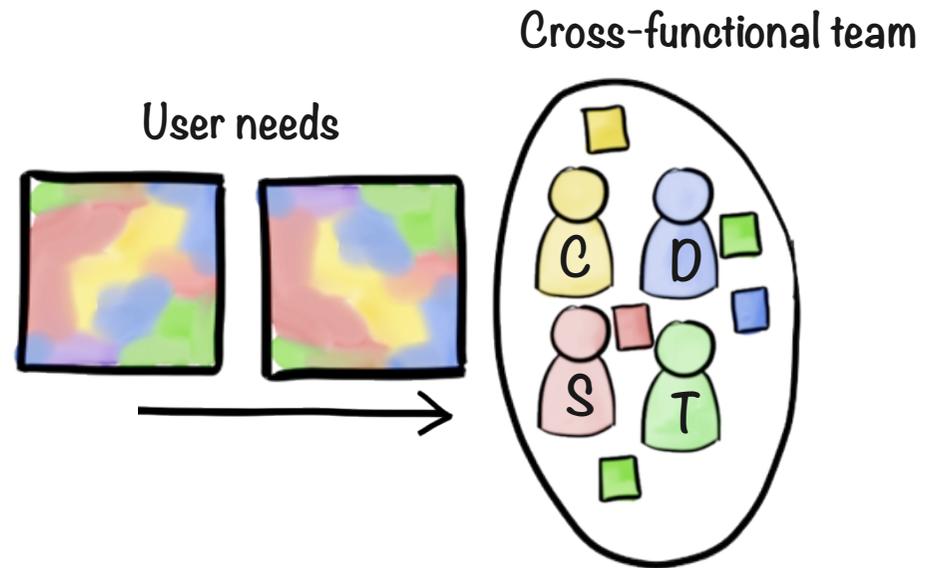
The Development Team

Resource optimization vs Time-to-market optimization

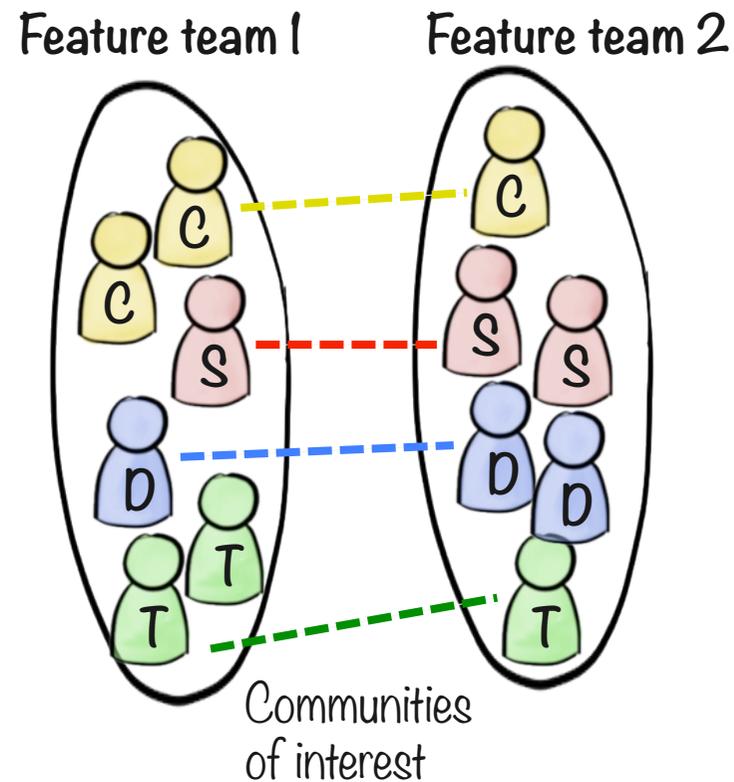
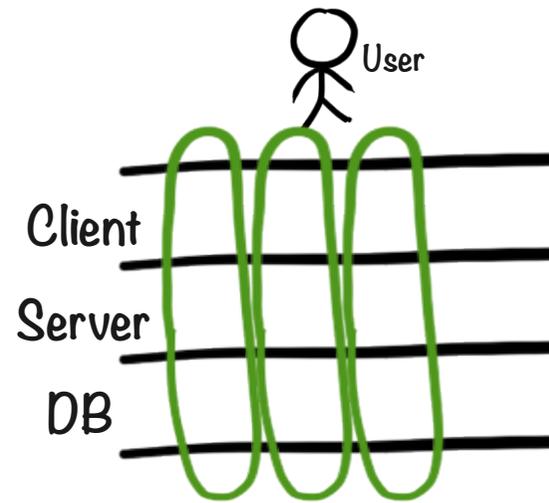
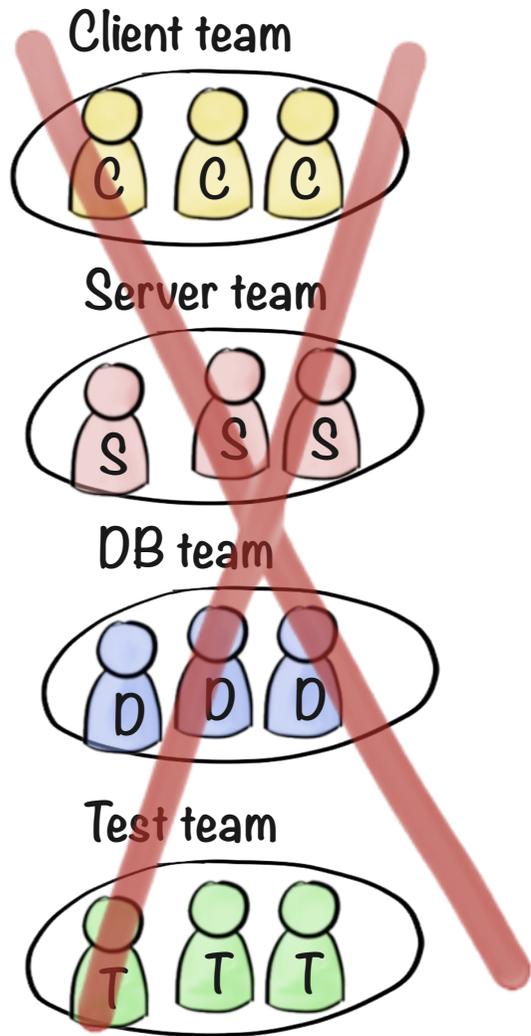
Resource optimization



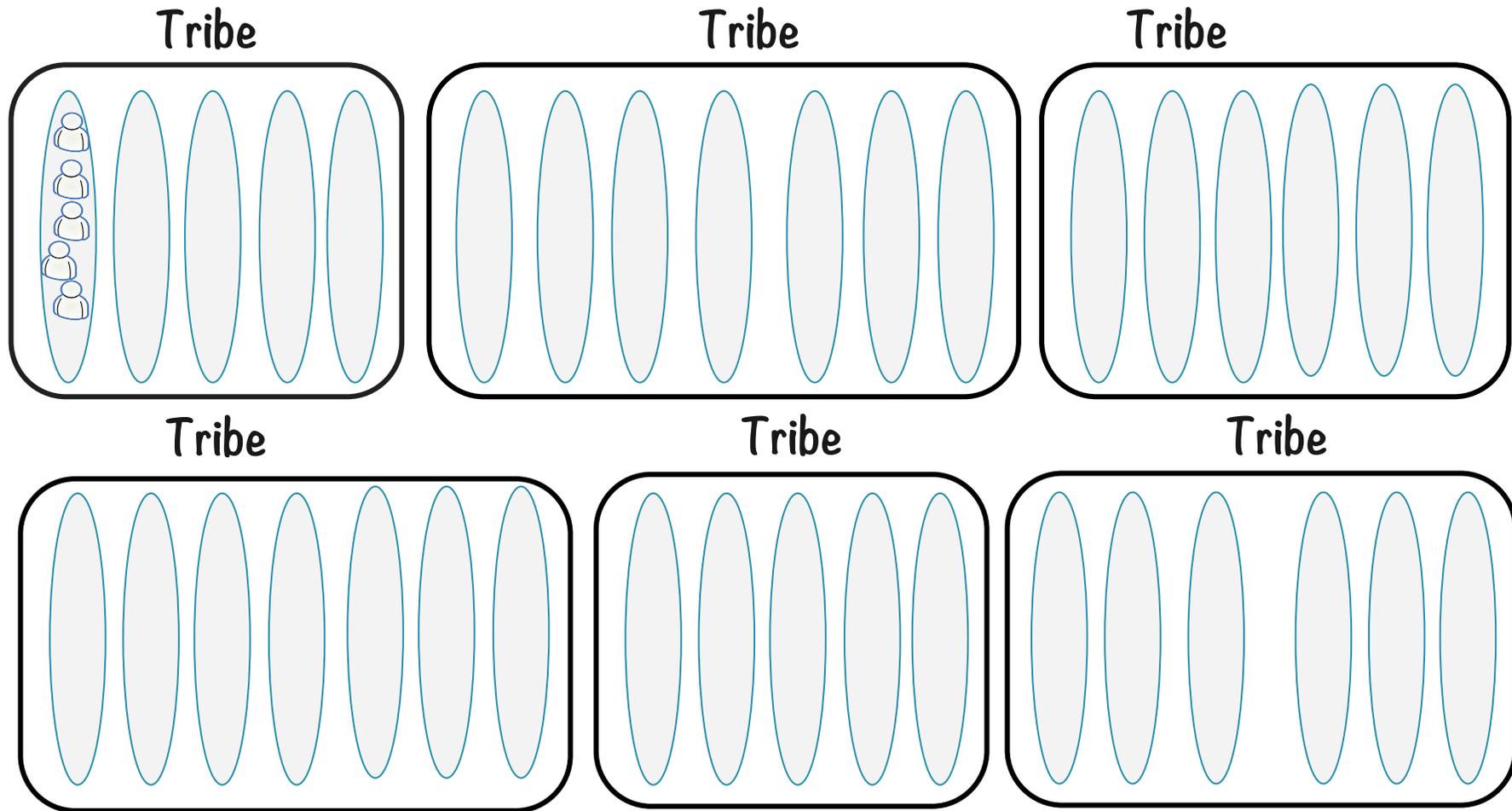
Time-to-market optimization



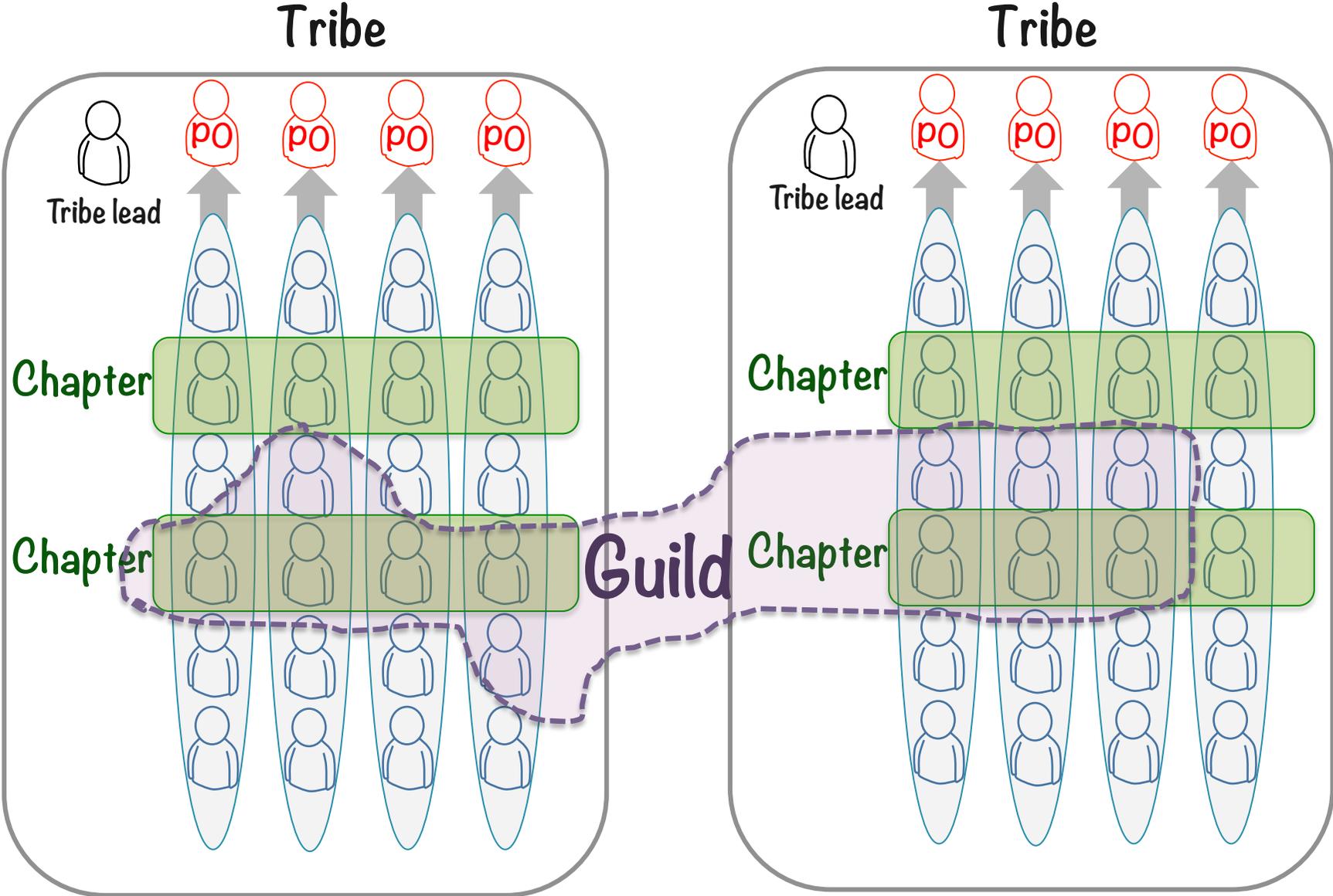
Cross-functional teams are vertical



Spotify



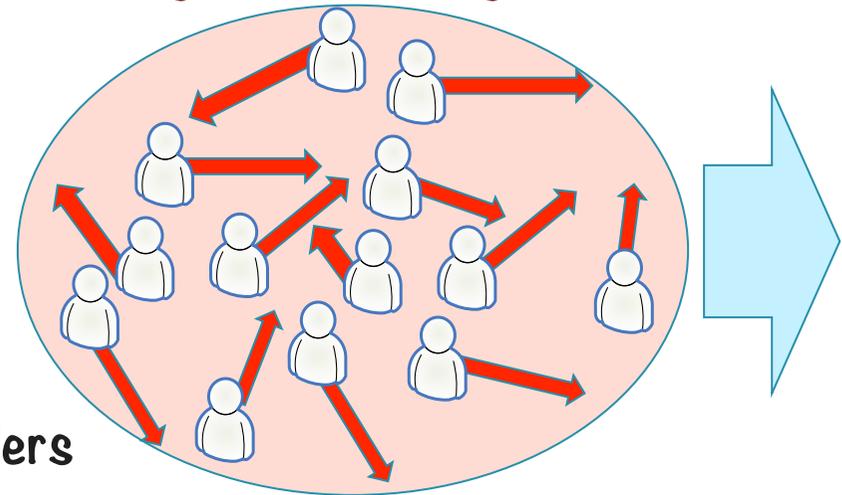
Spotify



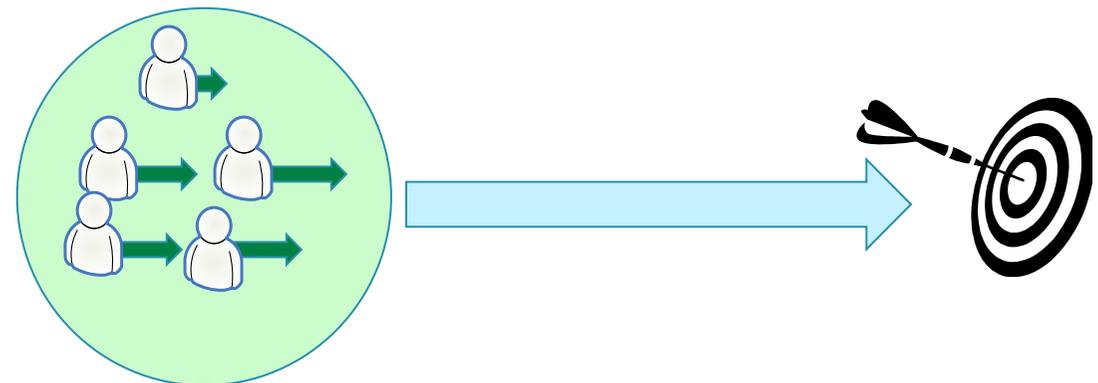
Cultivating a Great Team

- Colocated
- Small (3-7 ppl)
- Self-organizing
- Cross-functional
- Clear mission & product owner
- Empowered to deliver
- Direct contact with users & stakeholders
- Focused. No multitasking.
- Transparent

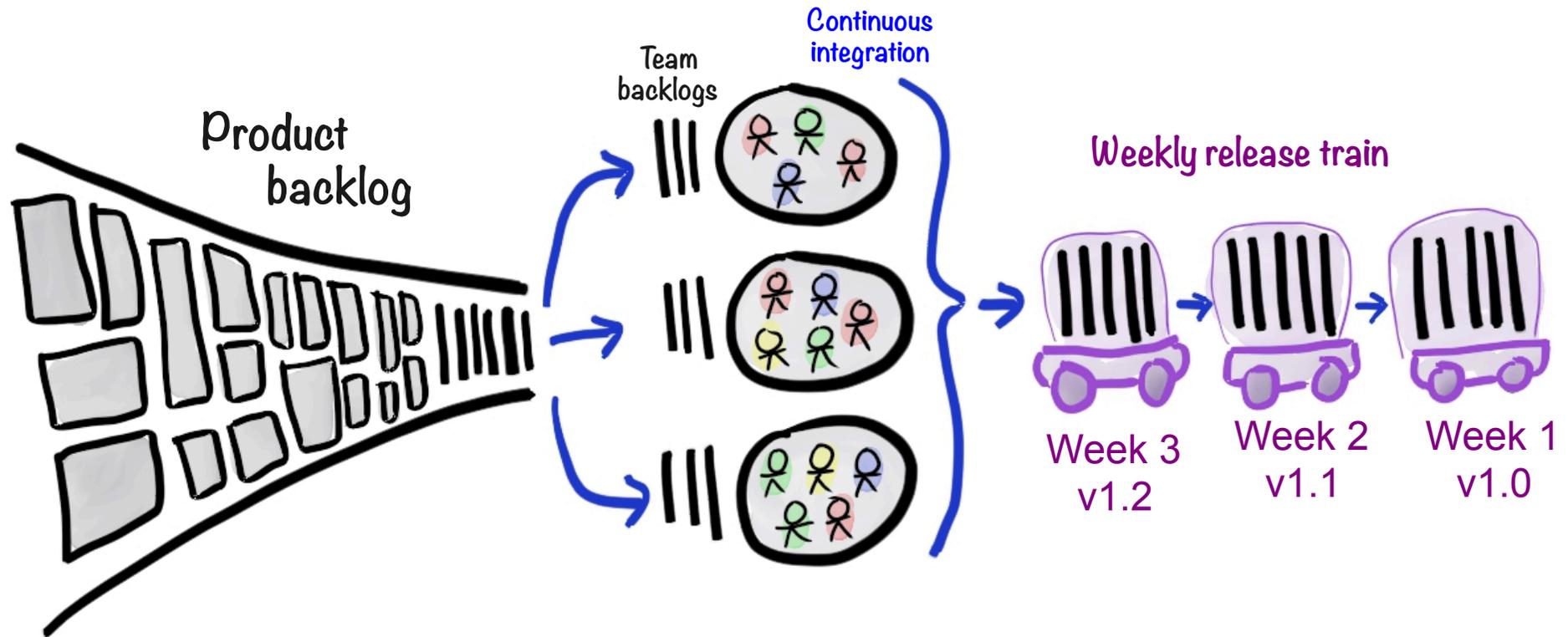
Big team working hard



Small team working smart

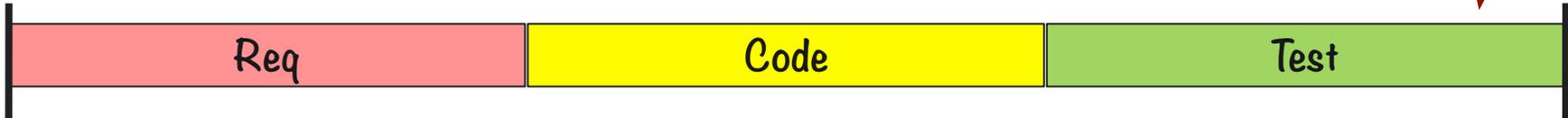


Multiple teams working together

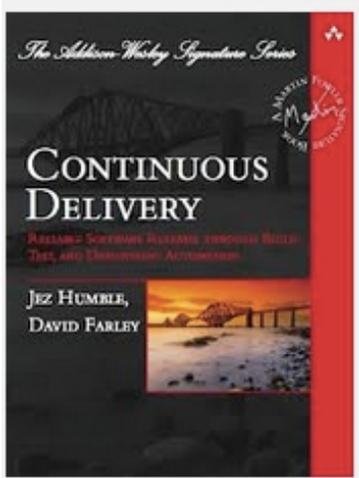
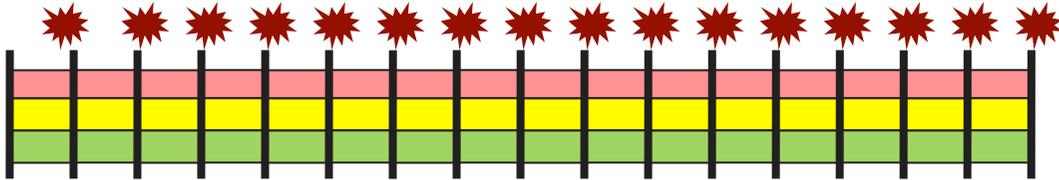


Releasing must be REALLY easy

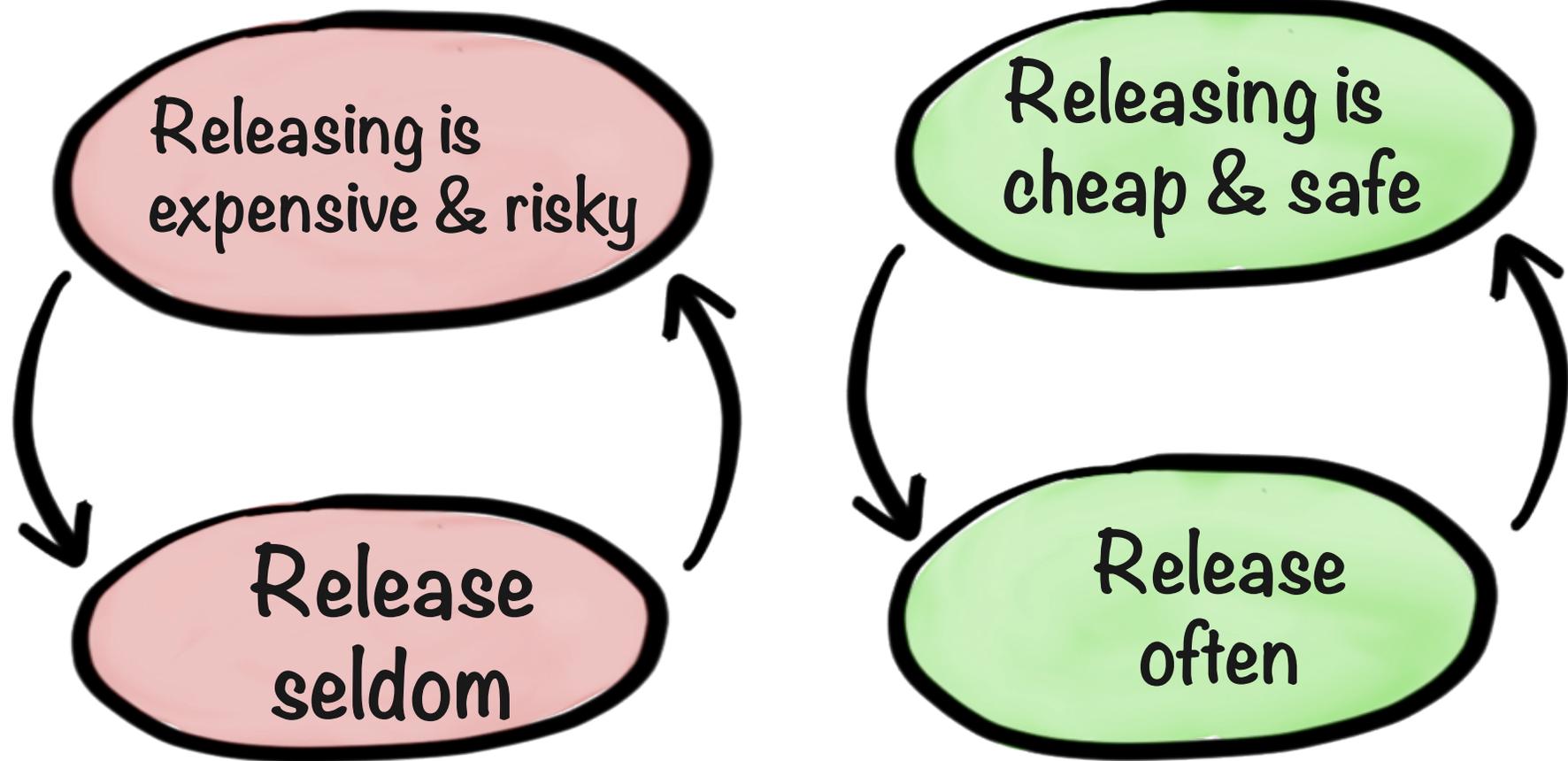
Release = Drama!



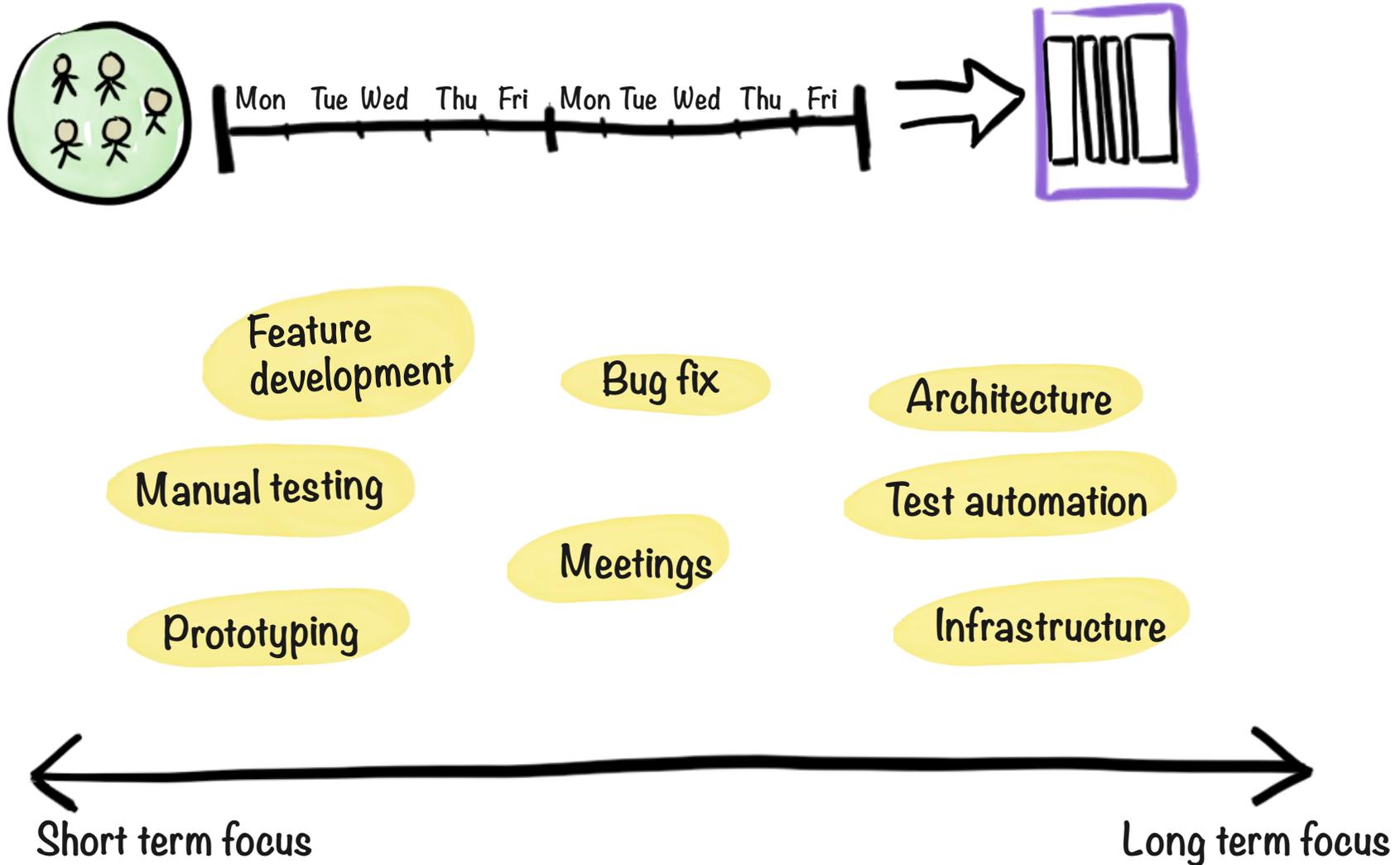
Release = Routine



Why we get stuck in Big Bang thinking

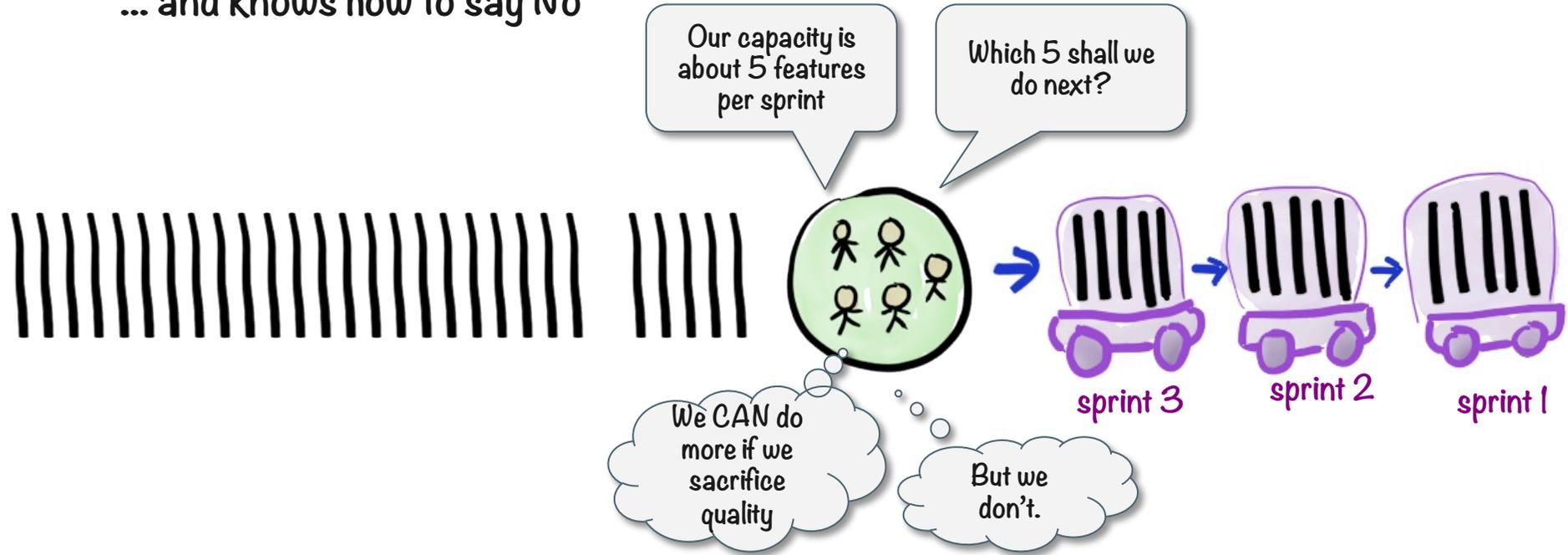


The team balances long-term and short-term work



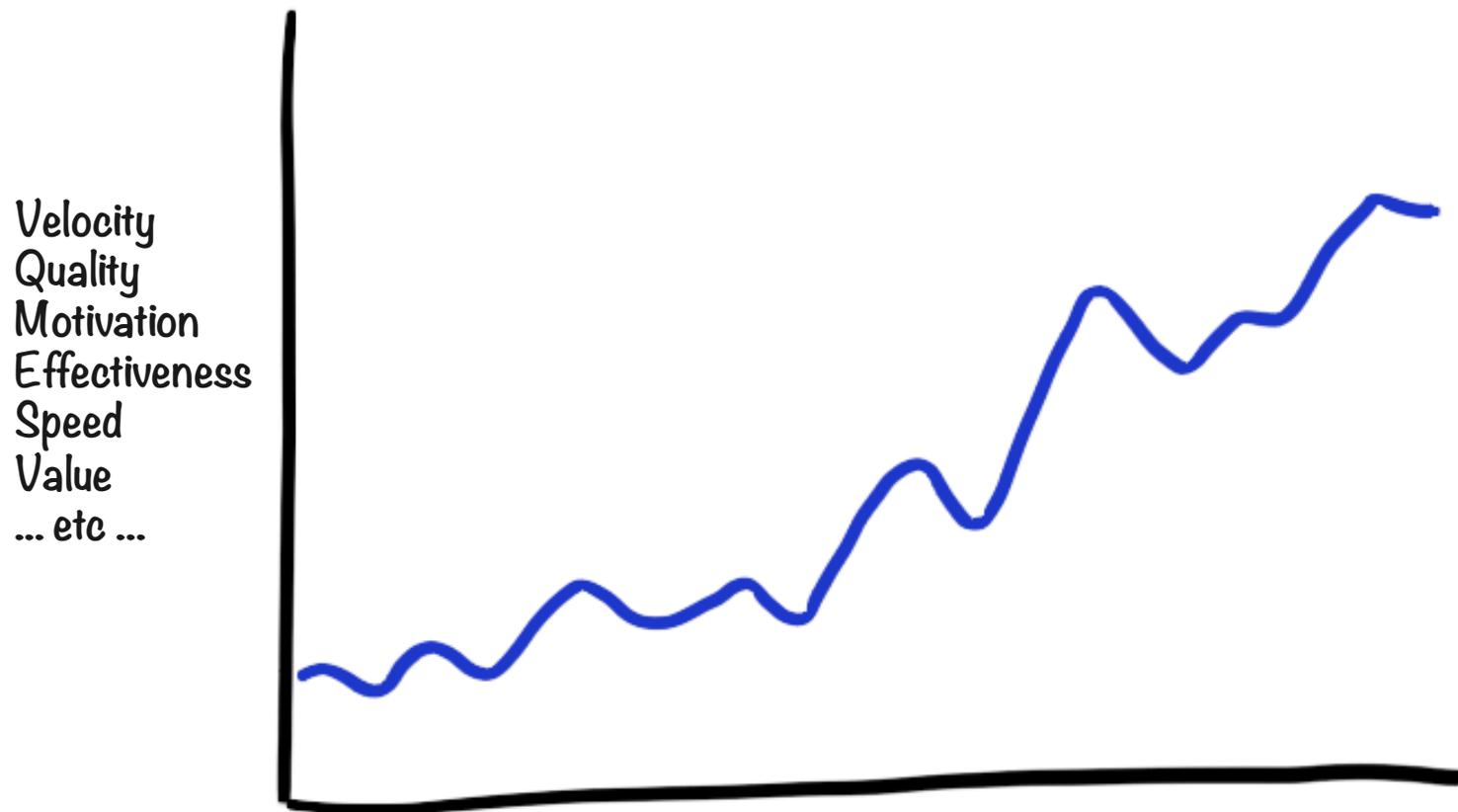
The team Limits work to capacity

... and knows how to say No



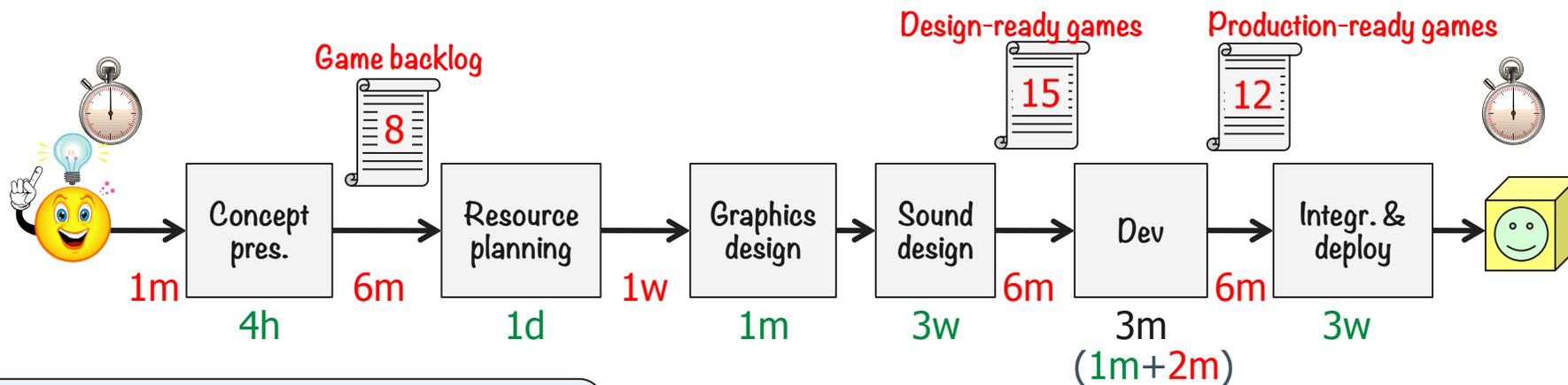
The team continuously experiments and gradually improves it's way of working

- Driven from the bottom
- Supported from the top



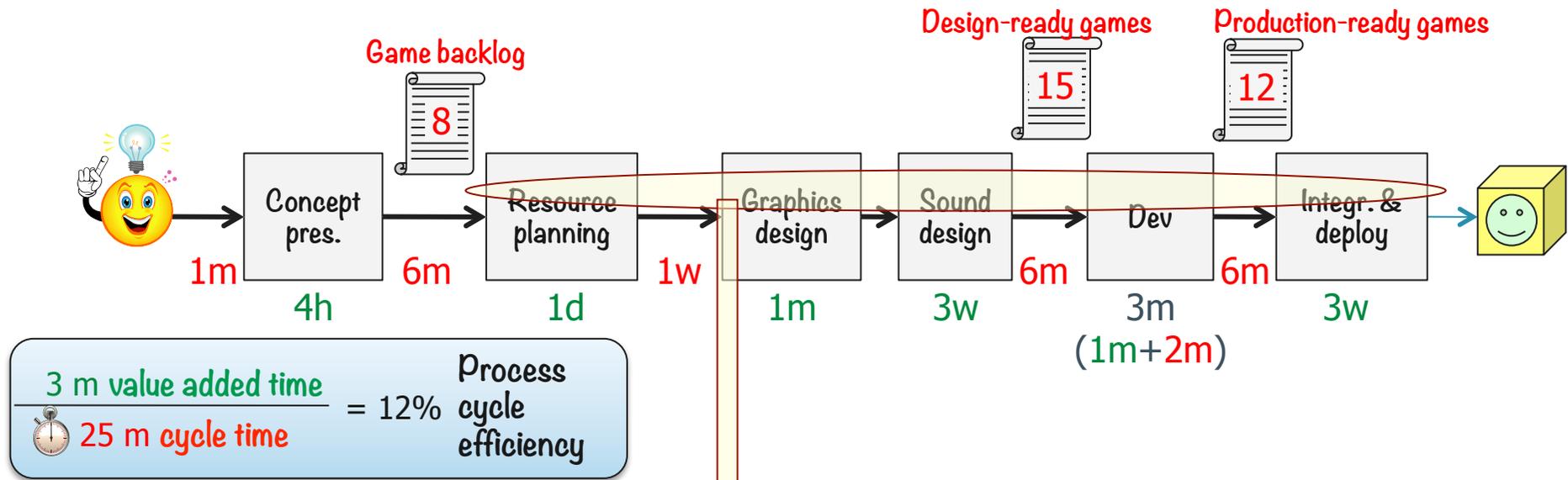
Example

Before



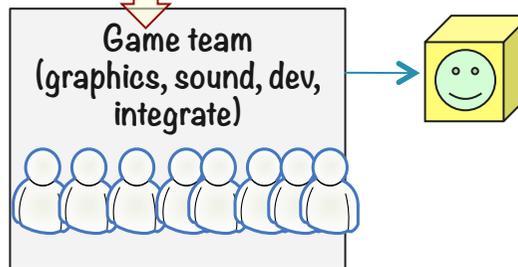
$$\frac{3 \text{ m value added time}}{25 \text{ m cycle time}} = 12\% \text{ Process cycle efficiency}$$

Before



After

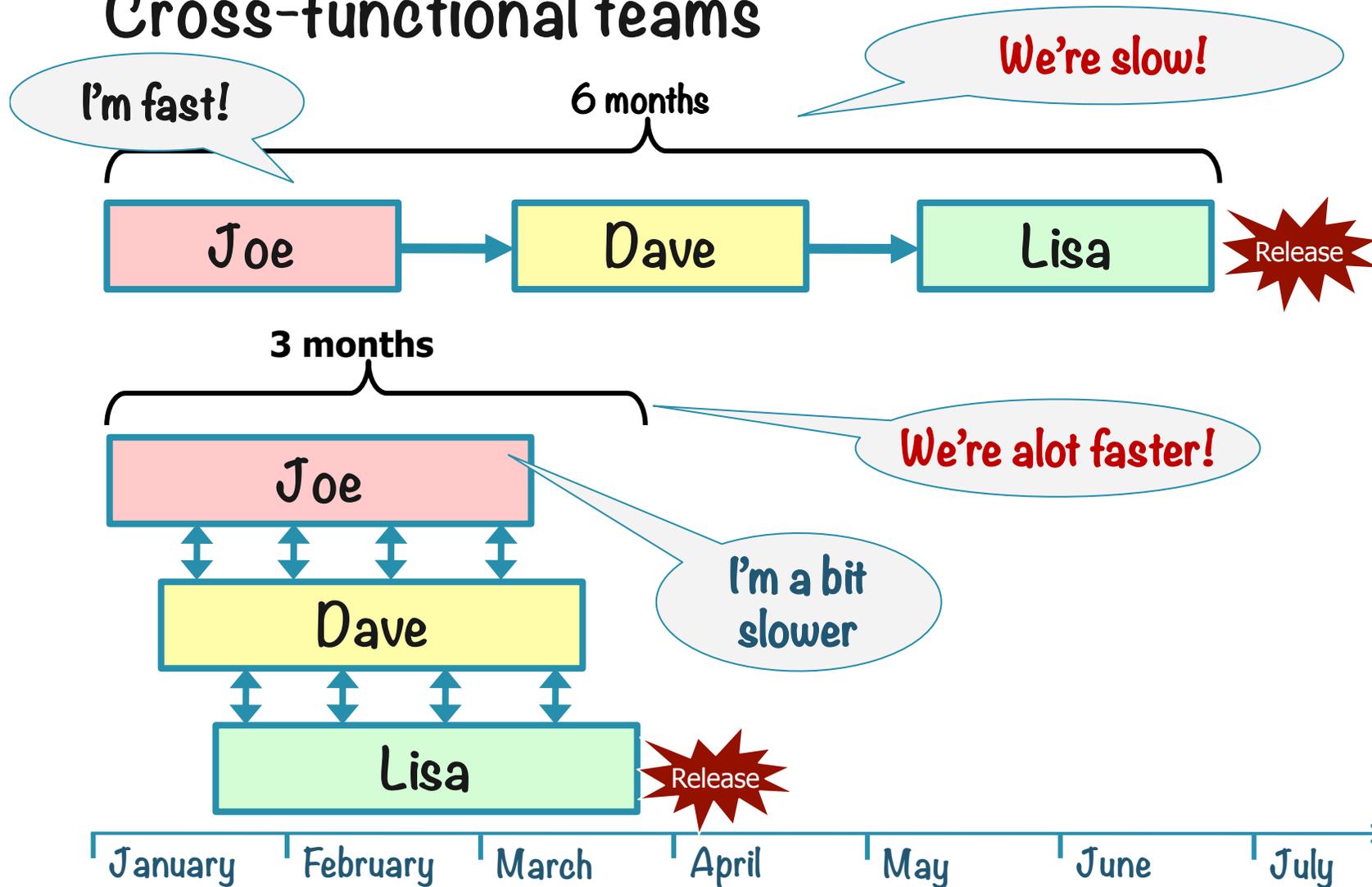
Cross-functional game team



3-4 months

7 times faster!

Cross-functional teams



Portfolio-level board

Next 1	Develop 3				Release 2	Done
	Concept	Playable	Features	Polish		
Solitaire	Game Team 1			Pac man	Zork	Bingo
	Game Team 2	Pong				Mine sweeper
	Game Team 3		Donkey Kong			Dugout

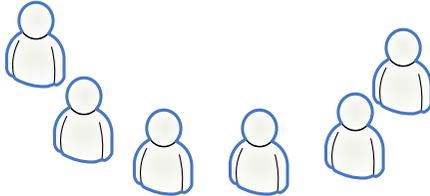
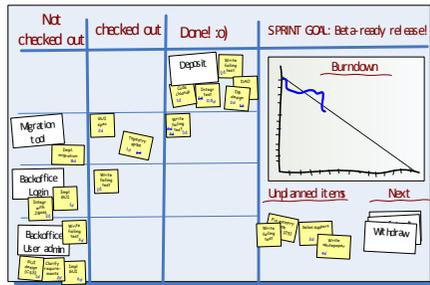
FLOW Avg lead time: 12 weeks



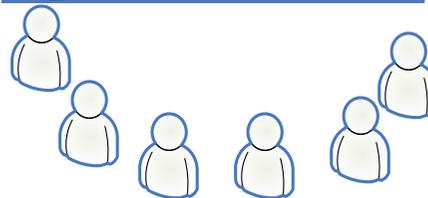
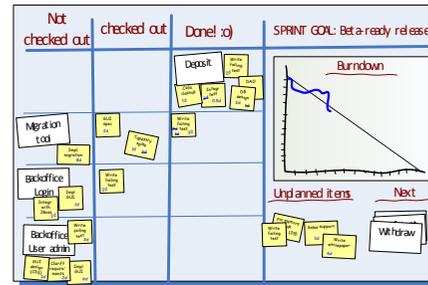
Game teams

Next 1	Develop 3				Release 2	Done
	Concept	Playable	Features	Polish		
Solitaire	Game Team 1			Pac man	Zork	Bingo
	Game Team 2	Pong				Mine sweeper
	Game Team 3			Donkey Kong		Dupout Duck hunt

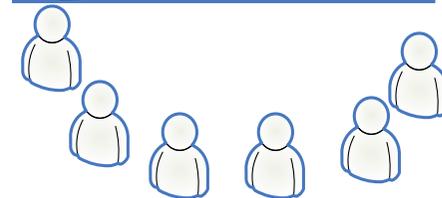
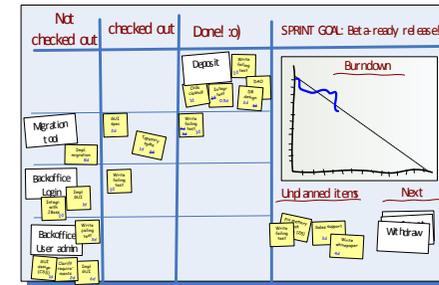
Game team 1 Current game: Pac Man



Game team 2 Current game: Pong



Game team 2 Current game: Donkey Kong



Succeeding with software development

What have we learned?

IT project success rate 1994: 15%

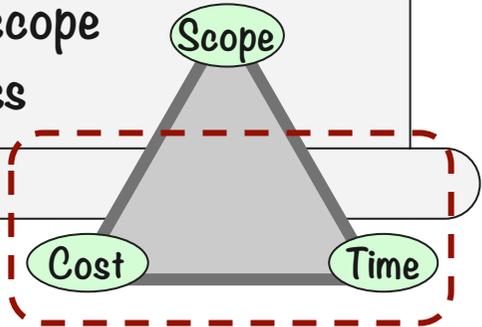
Average cost & time overrun: 170%

IT project success rate 2004: 34%

Average cost & time overrun: 70%

Top 5 reasons for success

1. User involvement
2. Executive management support
3. Clear business objectives
4. Optimizing scope
5. Agile process



“The primary reason [for the improvement] is that **projects have gotten a lot smaller.**”



Jim Johnson
Chairman of
Standish Group

“Doing projects with **iterative processes** as opposed to the waterfall method, which called for all project requirements to be defined up front, is a major step forward.”

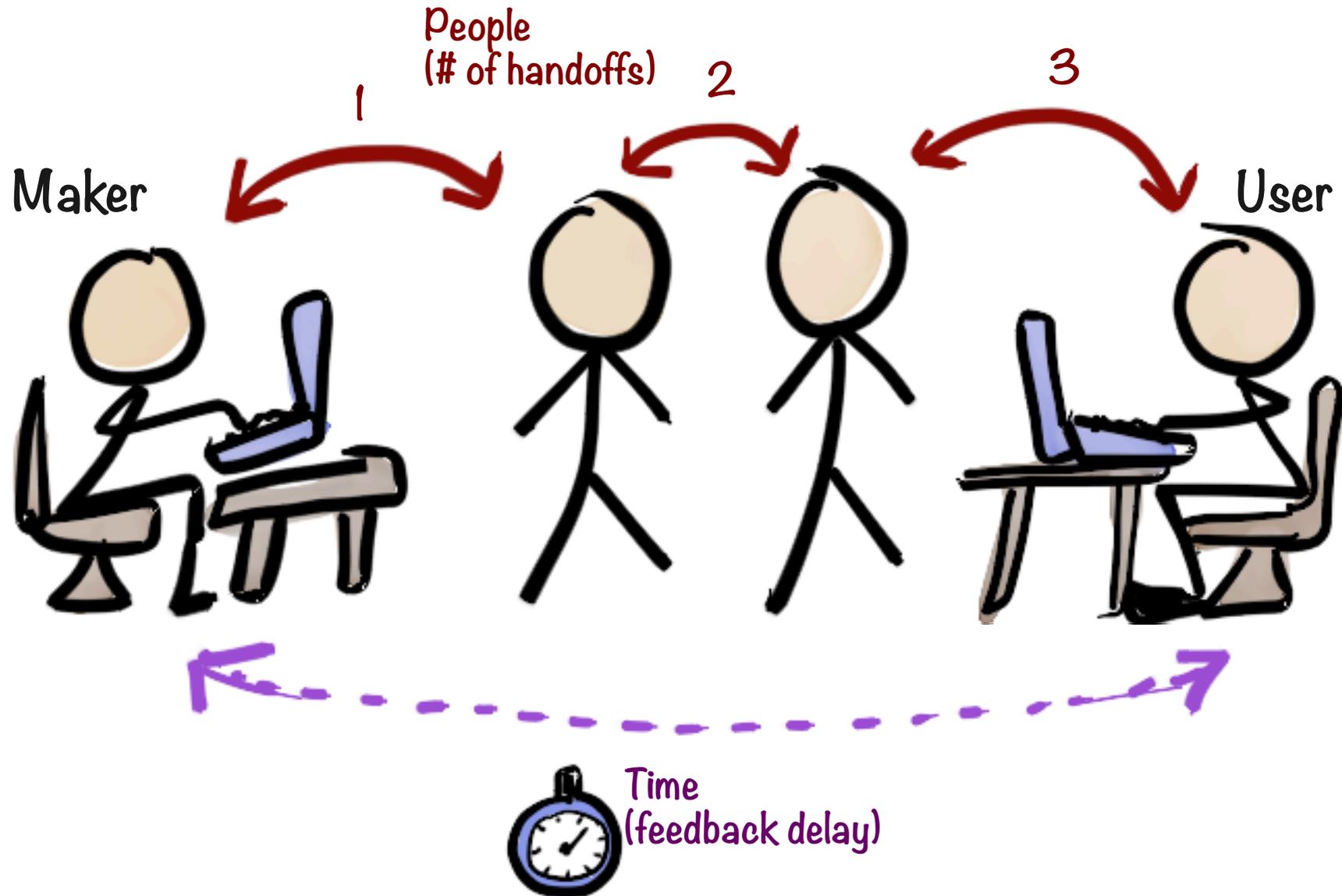
Sources:

<http://www.softwaremag.com/L.cfm?Doc=newsletter/2004-01-15/Standish>

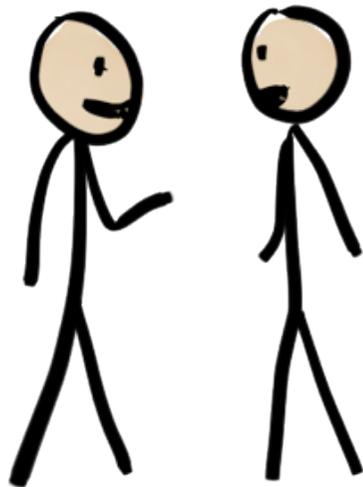
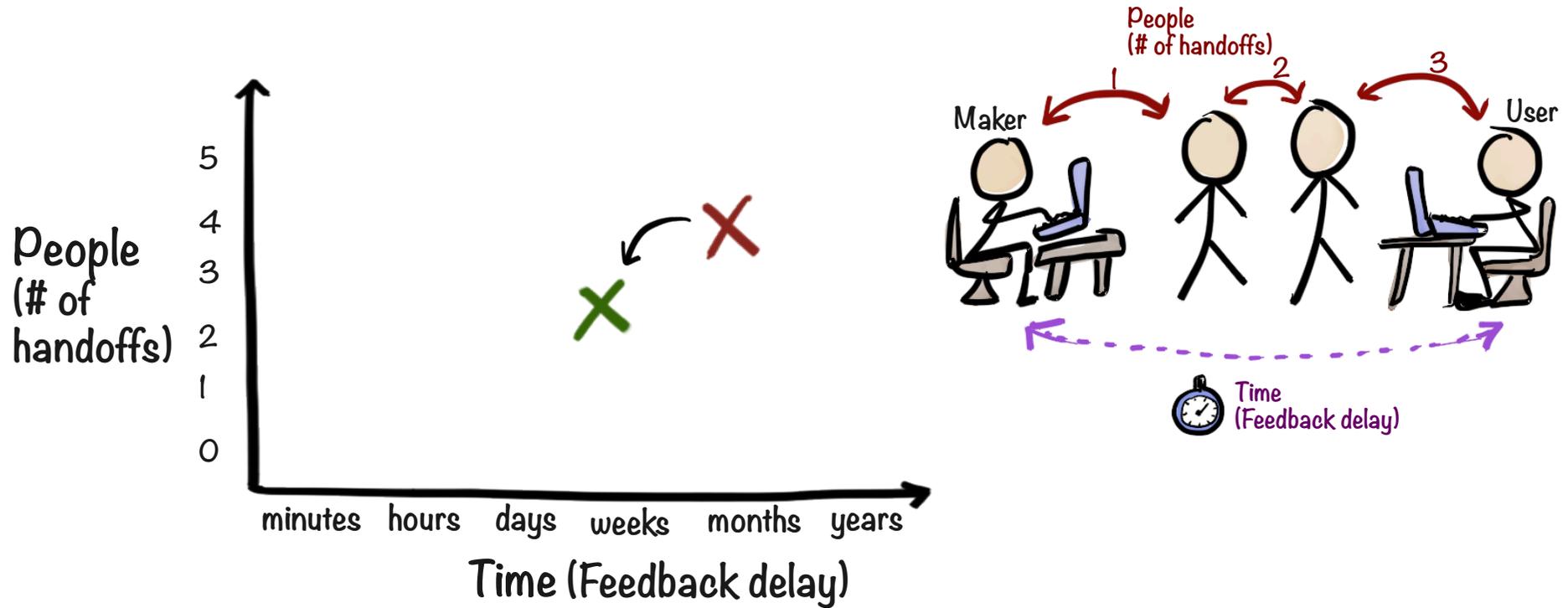
<http://www.infoq.com/articles/Interview-Johnson-Standish-CHAOS>

“My Life is Failure”, Jim Johnson’s book

Minimize distance between Maker and User



Minimize distance between Maker and User



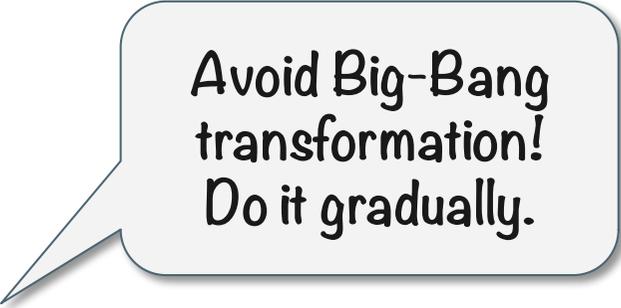
2 minute standup discussion (pair/trio):

- Think of any ongoing project
- What is the distance between Developer & User?
- What can YOU do to reduce the distance?

Final points

The price of agile

(there is no such thing as a free lunch....)



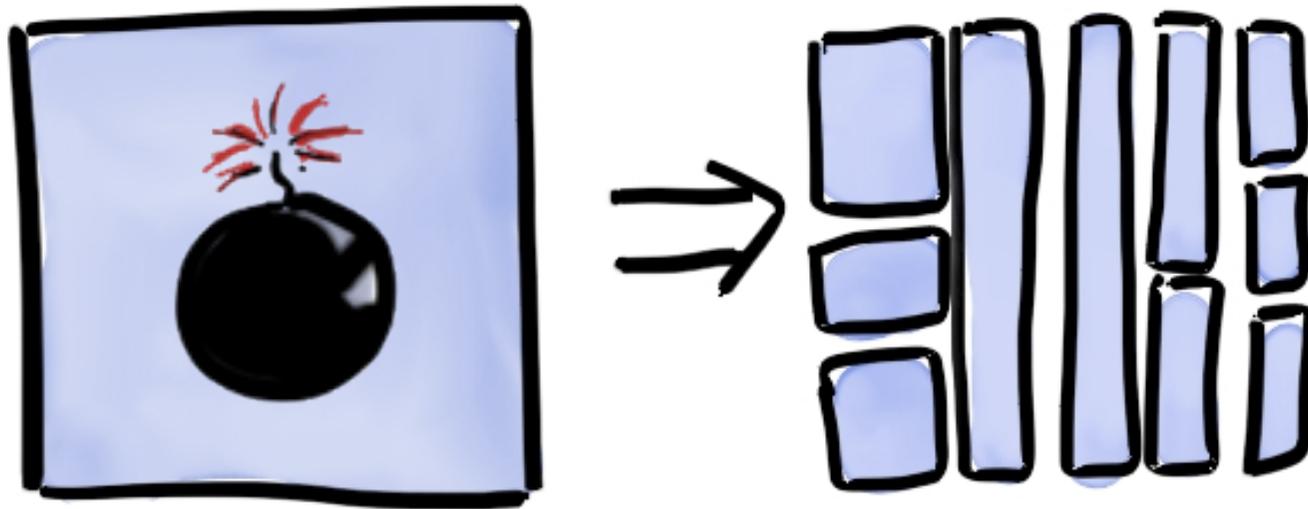
Avoid Big-Bang
transformation!
Do it gradually.

- **Infrastructure Investments**
(release automation, test automation, etc)
- **Reorganization**
(new roles, cross-functional teams, etc)
- **New skills**
(Vertical story-slicing, retrospectives, agile architecture, etc)
- **New habits**
(Frequent customer interaction, frequent release, less specialization)
- **Transparency**
(problems and uncertainty painfully visible rather than hidden)

Big is Bad!

Break it down!

- Big project => Several small projects
- Big feature => Several small features
- Big team => Several small teams
- Big transformation => Several small transformations



Agile is...

Early delivery of business value

Less bureaucracy

3 concrete changes

...gradually...

1. Make Real Teams

- small, cross-functional, self-organizing, colocated

2. Deliver Often

- internally every 3 weeks at most
- externally every quarter at most

3. Involve Real Users

- direct and fast feedback between the team and the users

Agile is a direction, not a place

The important thing is not your process.
The important thing is
your process for improving your process

1. Make Real Teams

- small, cross-functional, self-organizing, colocated

2. Deliver Often

- internally every 3 weeks at most
- externally every quarter at most

3. Involve Real Users

- direct and fast feedback between the team and the users

