

# Agile Overview

**Balachander Swaminathan ([bala@thoughtworks.com](mailto:bala@thoughtworks.com))**

## Agenda for this session

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- **The Story of Software Development**
- Lean Thinking
- Agile Values and Principles
- Agile Process
- Agile Practices
- Summary/Review
- Questions/Close

# The Story of Software Development...

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We started off with **Software Engineering...**

## IEEE defines Software Engineering as....

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“Software Engineering is the application of a systematic, disciplined, quantifiable approach to development, operation and maintenance of software: that is, the application of engineering to software.”

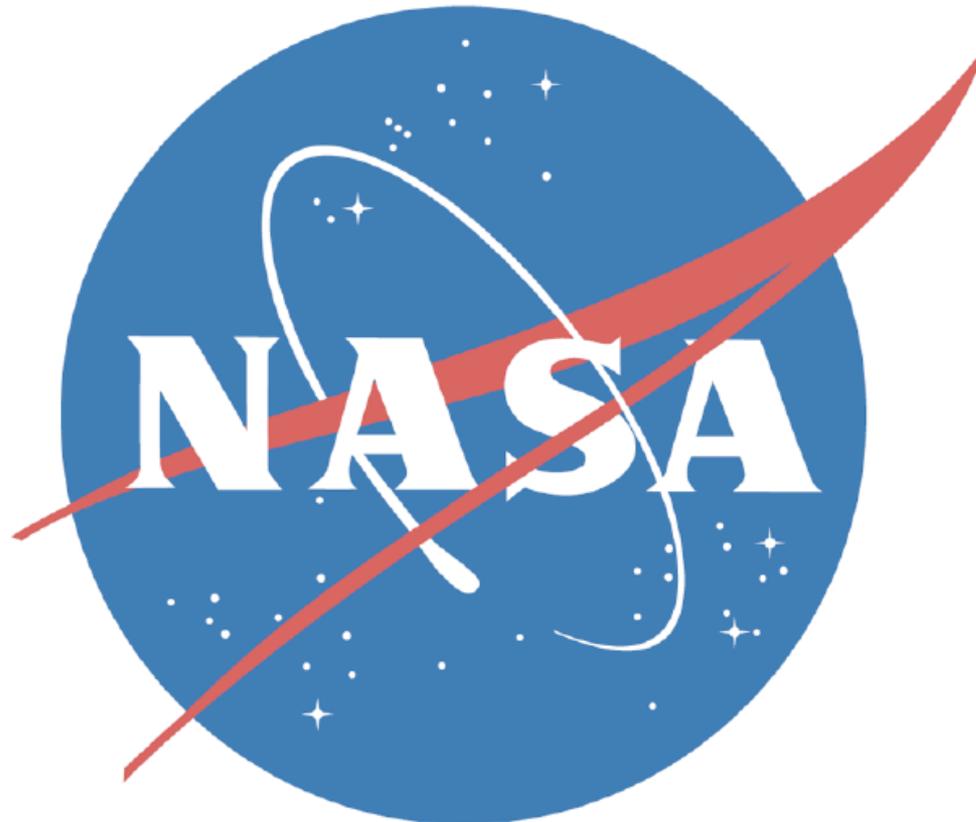
IEEE Standard Computer Dictionary,  
ISBN 1-55937-079-3, 1990

# Who does Software Engineering?

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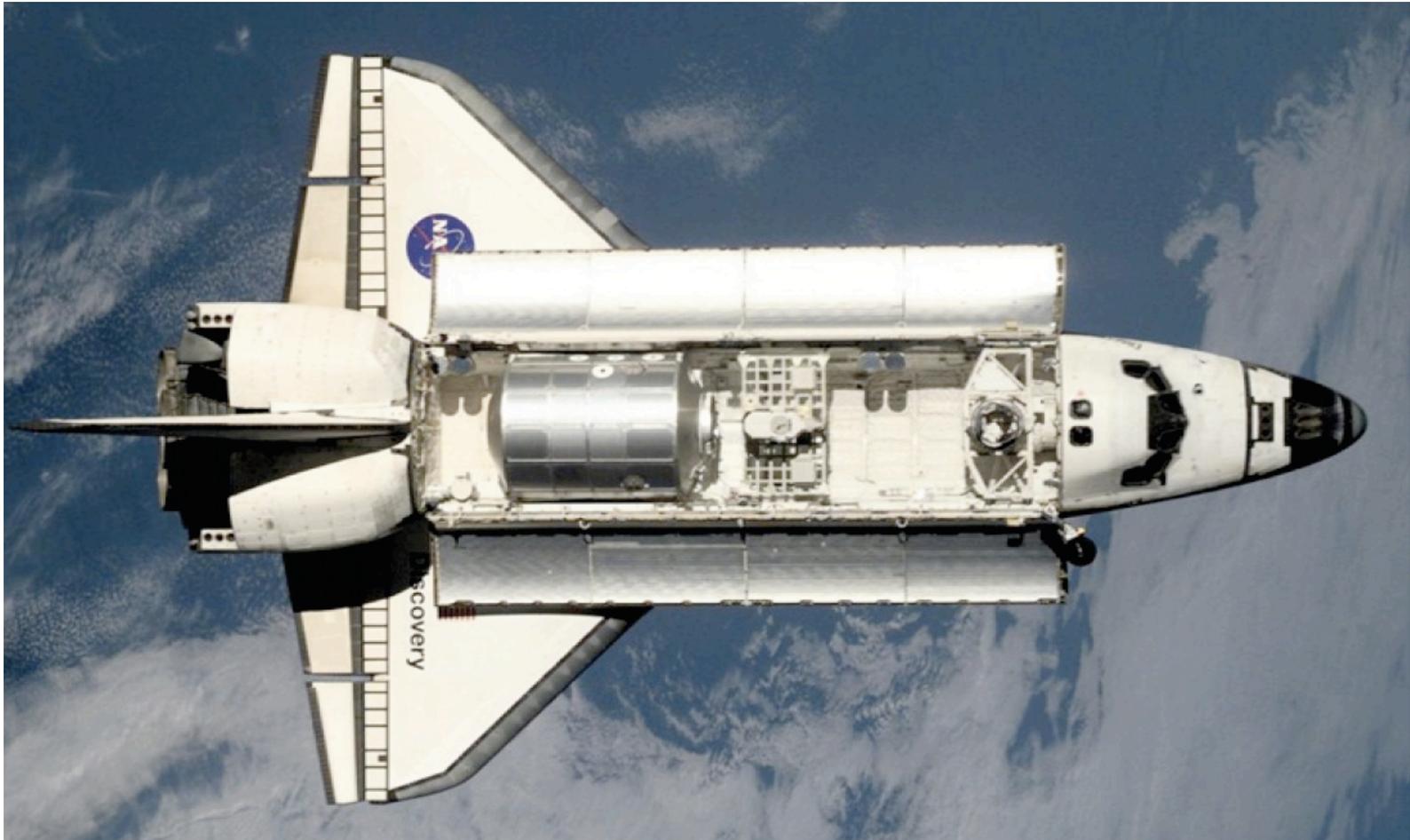
# Who does Software Engineering?

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For the space shuttle's operating system



For the space shuttle's operating system

## Some Statistics - NASA's Defect Density

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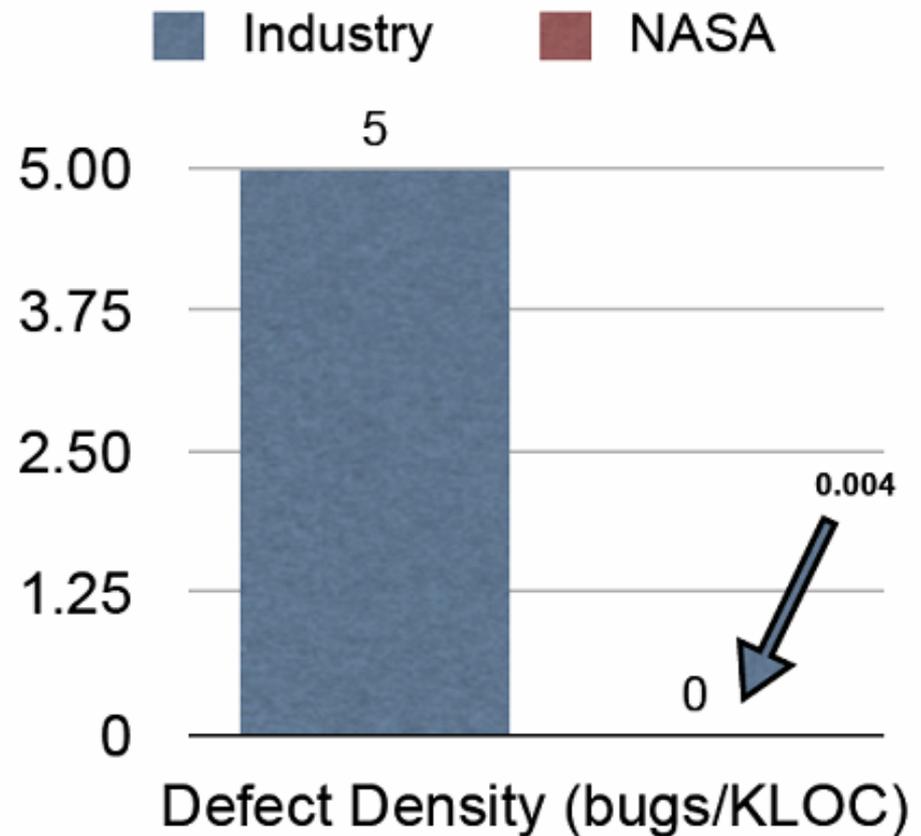
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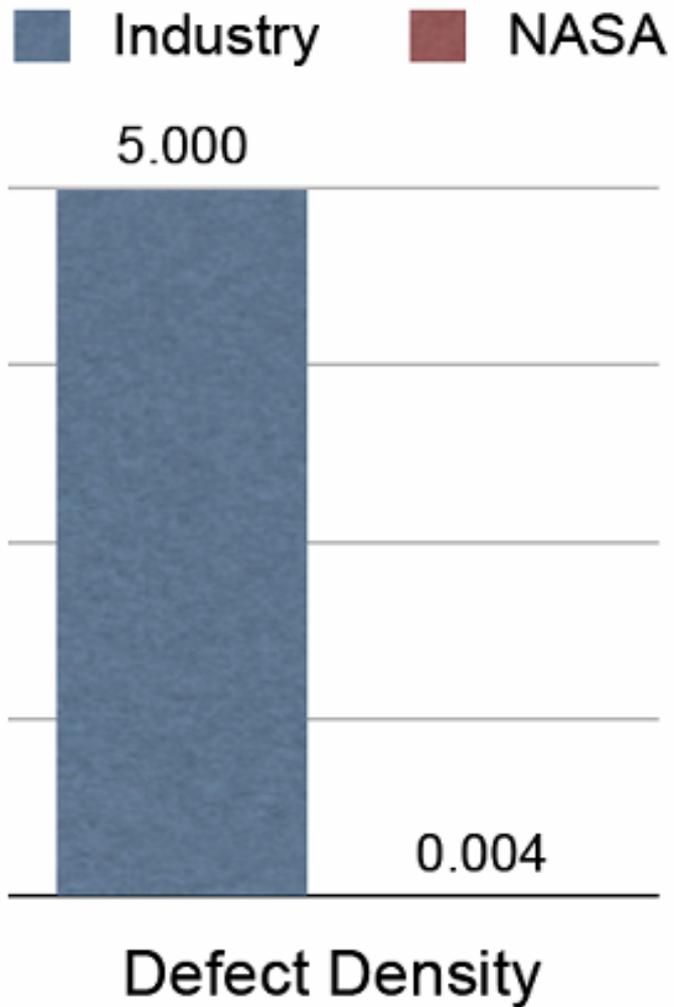
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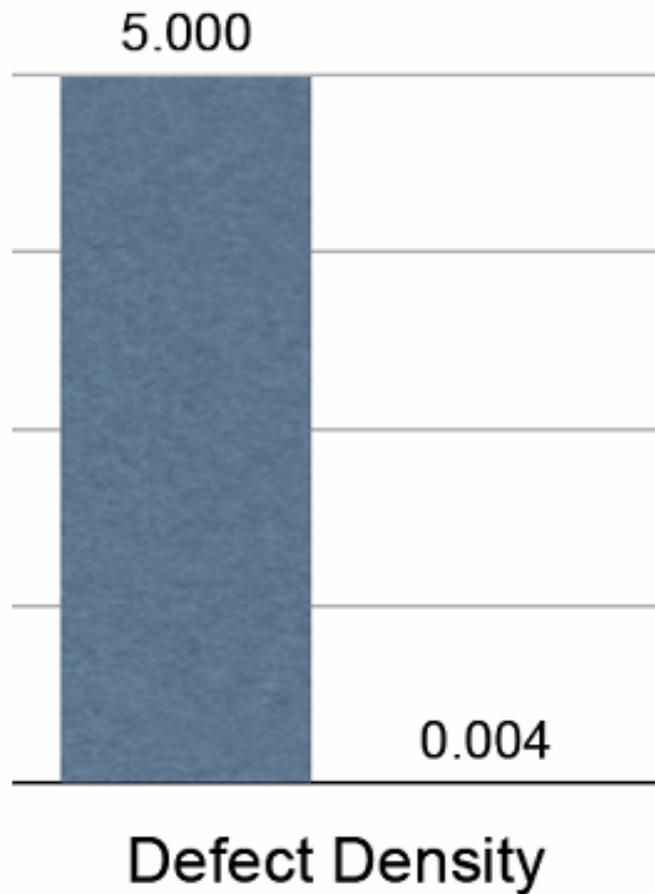


## One More Data Point

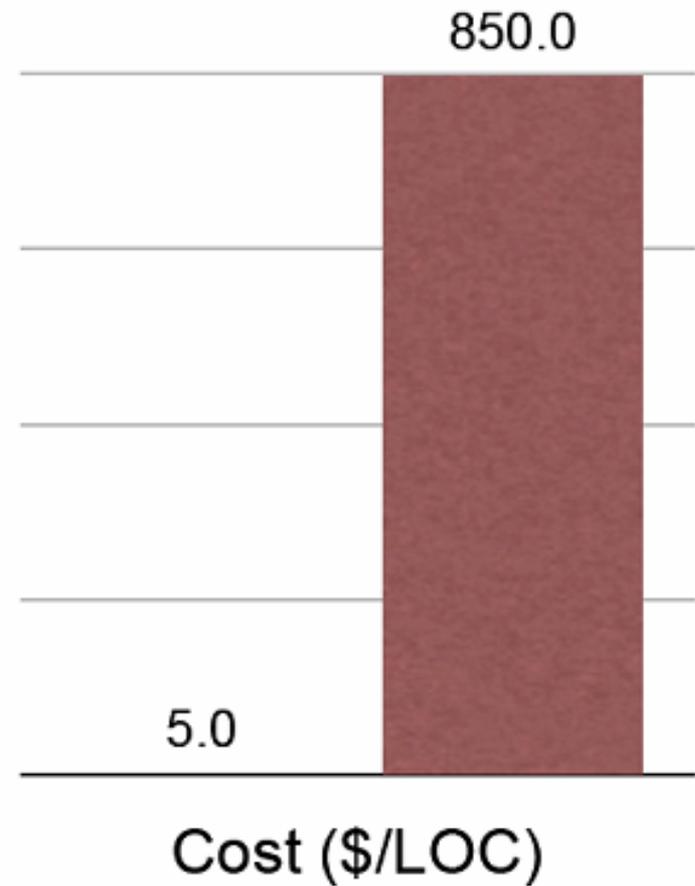


## One More Data Point

■ Industry ■ NASA



■ Industry ■ NASA



# Another real software engineering project

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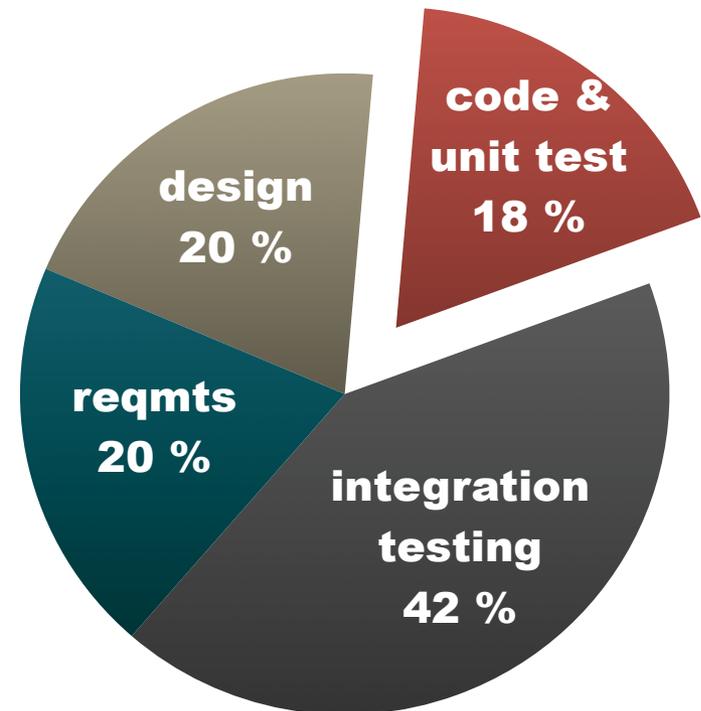
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## Safeguard - Ballistic Missile Defense System

## Another real software engineering project

### Safeguard - Ballistic Missile Defense System

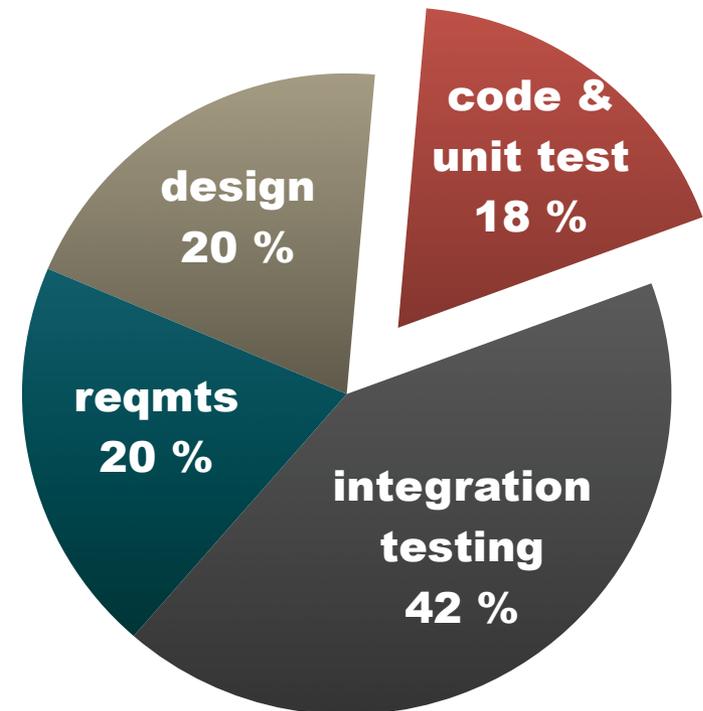
- 1969-1975, 5407 person years
- Hardware designed at the same time as software specs being written
- Late changes in requirements not an option



## Another real software engineering project

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**Did it Succeed?**

## Safeguard - Ballistic Missile Defense System...cont.

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### Revised Project Statistics

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## Safeguard - Ballistic Missile Defense System...cont.

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**‘By the time the 6-year anti-missile system project was completed, the new missiles were faster than the anti-missile missiles’**

# Where did things go wrong?

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## Where did things go wrong?

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- Software Engineering is a heavy weight methodology and such heavy weight methodologies characteristically are most successful when:
  - Requirements are **stable**
  - **Technology** is well known and mature
  - Everything happens **as one would expect**
  - We are **not taking** on anything **new** or **unknown**
  - We have done this **many times before**

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*Projects with these characteristics are few and far between.*

## Other Heavy Weight Methodologies

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### Heavy Weight

Waterfall

SEI/IEEE Project  
Standards and  
Definitions

RUP

Requirements  
Management

## Other Heavy Weight Methodologies

### Heavy Weight

Waterfall

SEI/IEEE Project  
Standards and  
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RUP

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Heavy weight methodologies work in some instances, but there are **high costs**, and the **risk** in using them in **dynamic environments** is high.

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So, heavy weight methodologies don't seem to meet our  
needs

**Is there an alternative?**

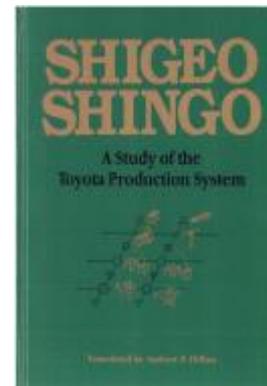
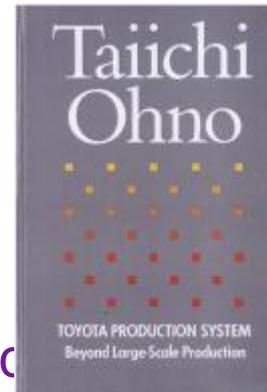
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- The Story of Software Development
- **Lean Thinking**
- Agile Values and Principles
- Agile Process
- Agile Practices
- Summary/Review
- Questions/Close

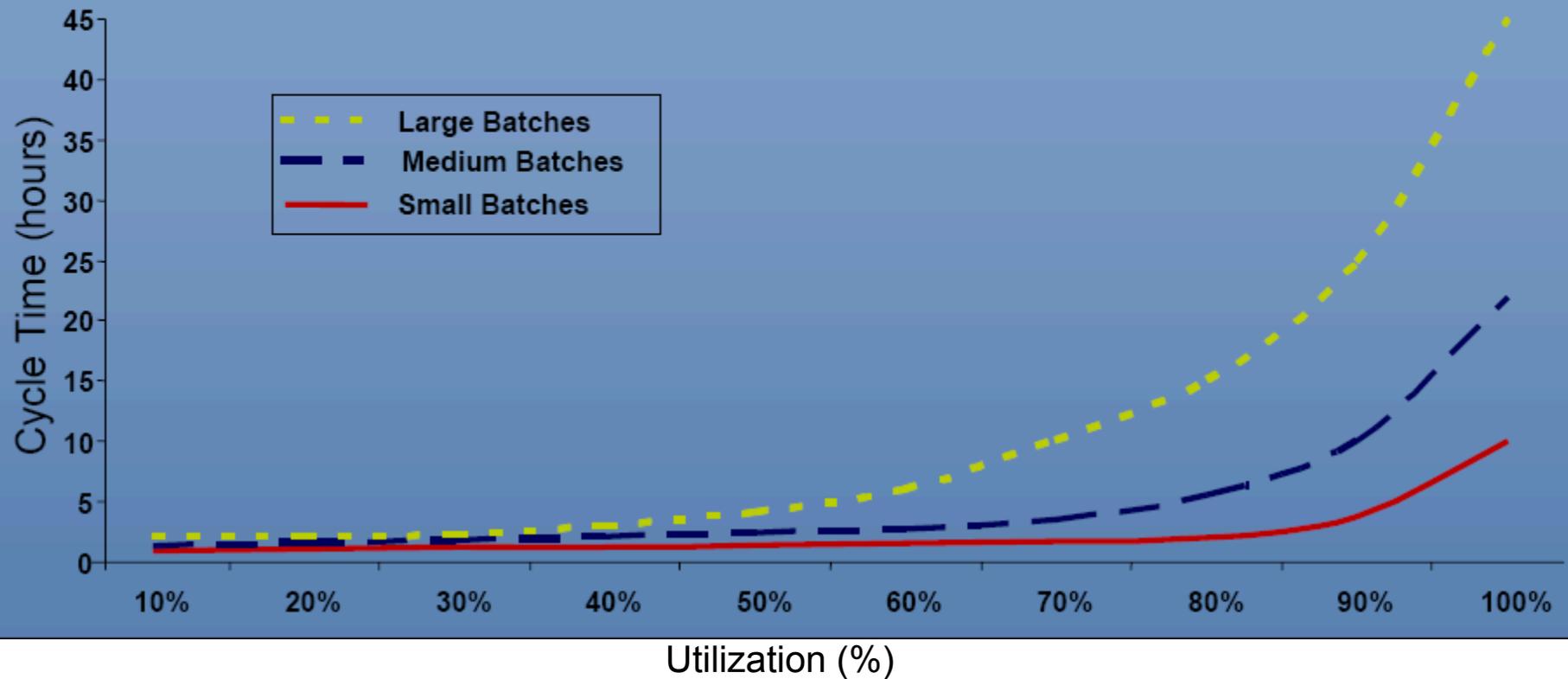
## Lean Thinking – Eliminate Waste

- **The Toyota Production System**, 1988 (1978), Taiichi Ohno
  - Pull Scheduling - Just-in-Time Flow
  - Expose Problems - Stop-the-Line Culture
- **Study Of 'Toyota' Production System**, 1981, Shigeo Shingo
  - Non-Stock Production - Single Minute Setup
  - Zero Inspection – Automatic Error Detection at Every Step



## Lessons from Queuing theory

Cycle Time as a Function of Utilization and Batch Size\*



Source: Beyond Agile Software Development Becoming Lean, Mary Poppendieck, Poppendieck.IIc

# Applying Lean Principles to Software Development

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## Traditional Process



Analysis

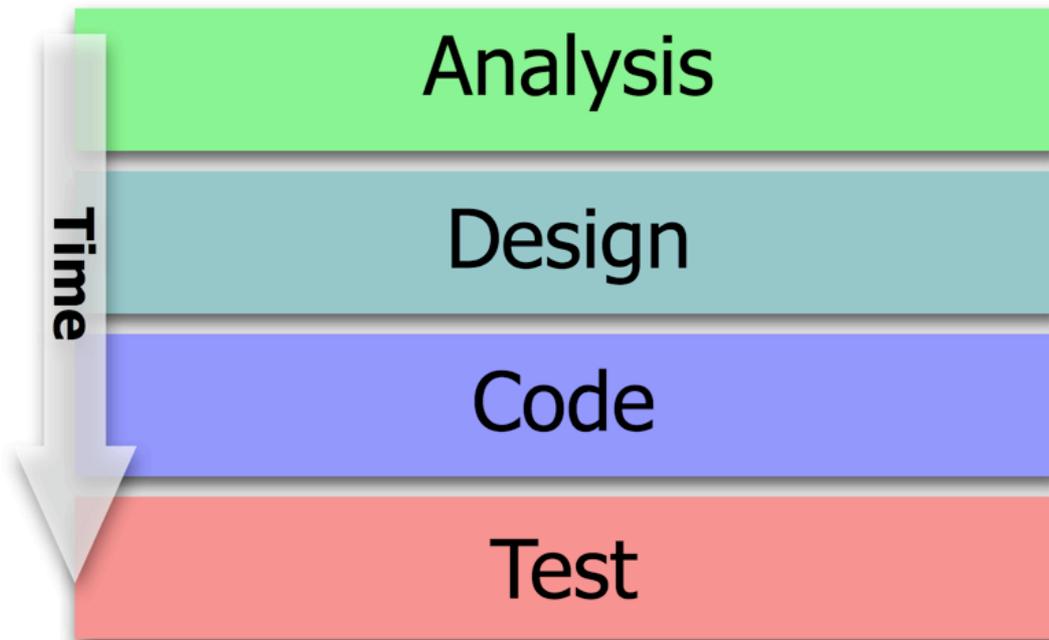
Design

Code

Test

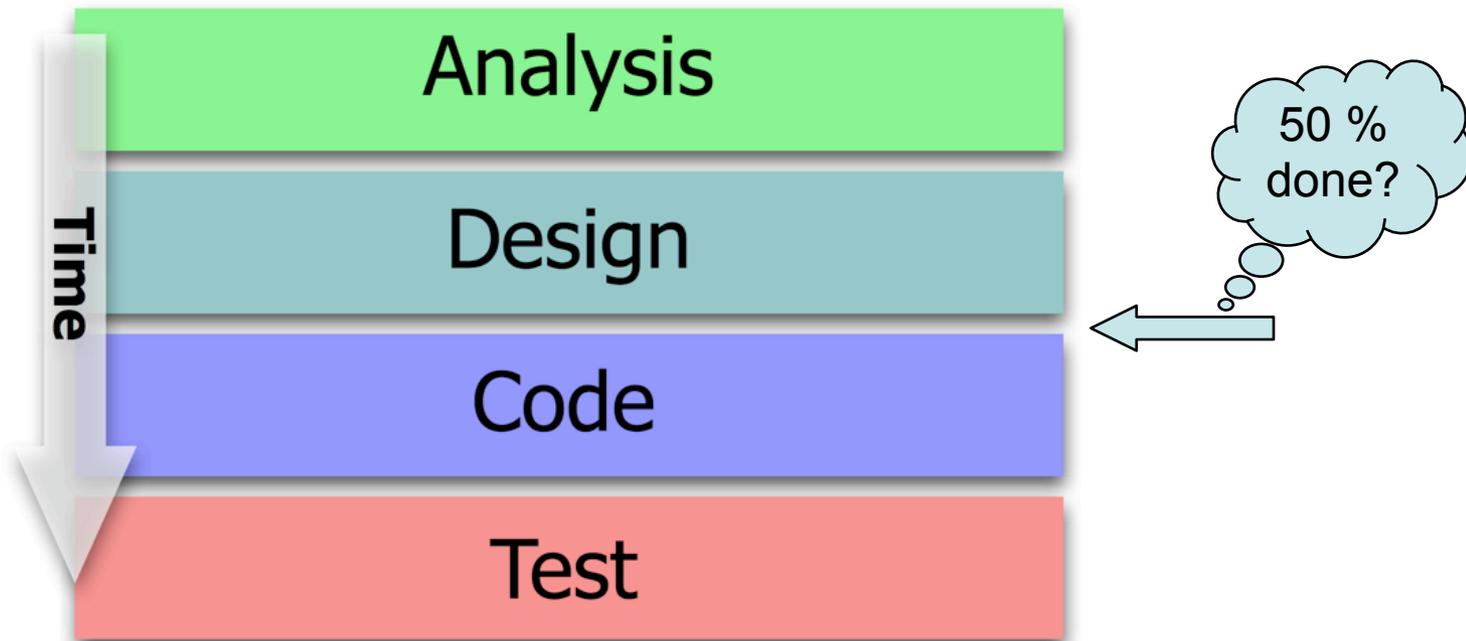
# Applying Lean Principles to Software Development

## Traditional Process



# Applying Lean Principles to Software Development

## Traditional Process



## Applying Lean Principles to Software Development...cont.

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A better way of doing the same



Analysis

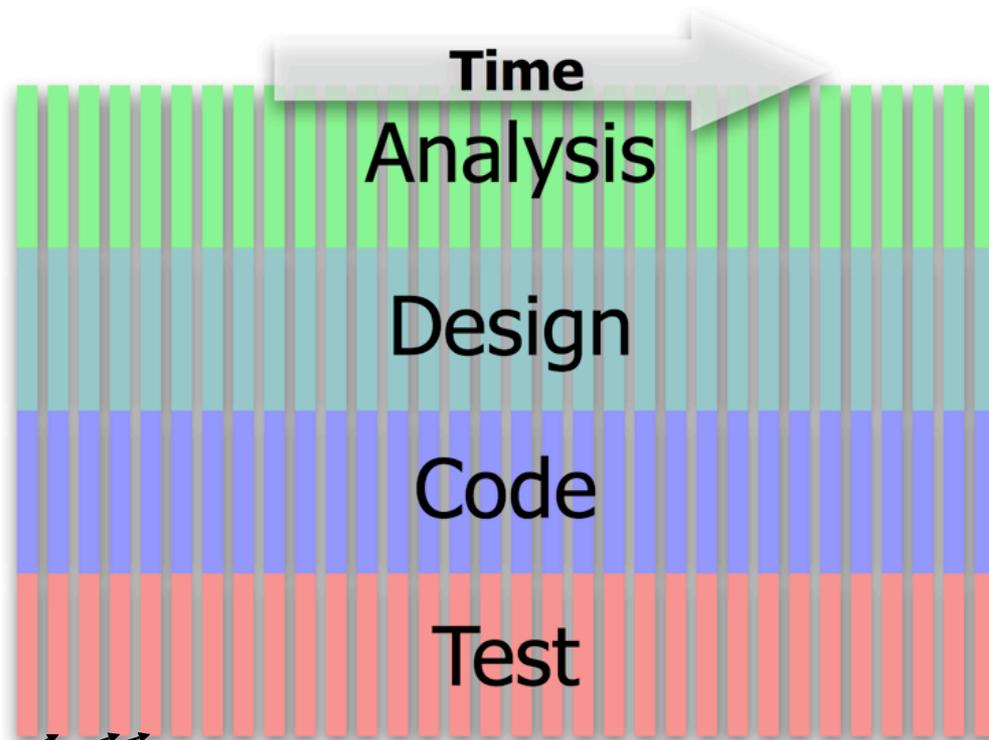
Design

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## Applying Lean Principles to Software Development...cont.

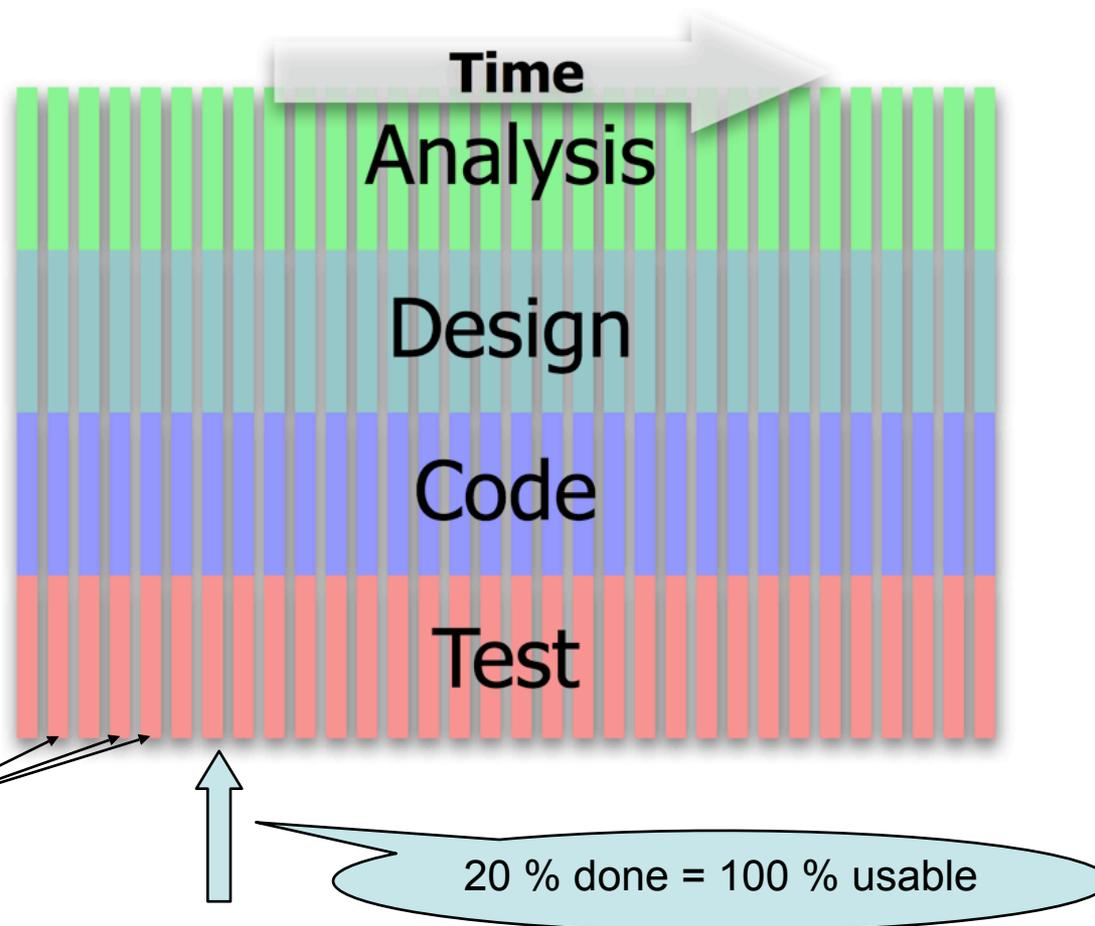
A better way of doing the same



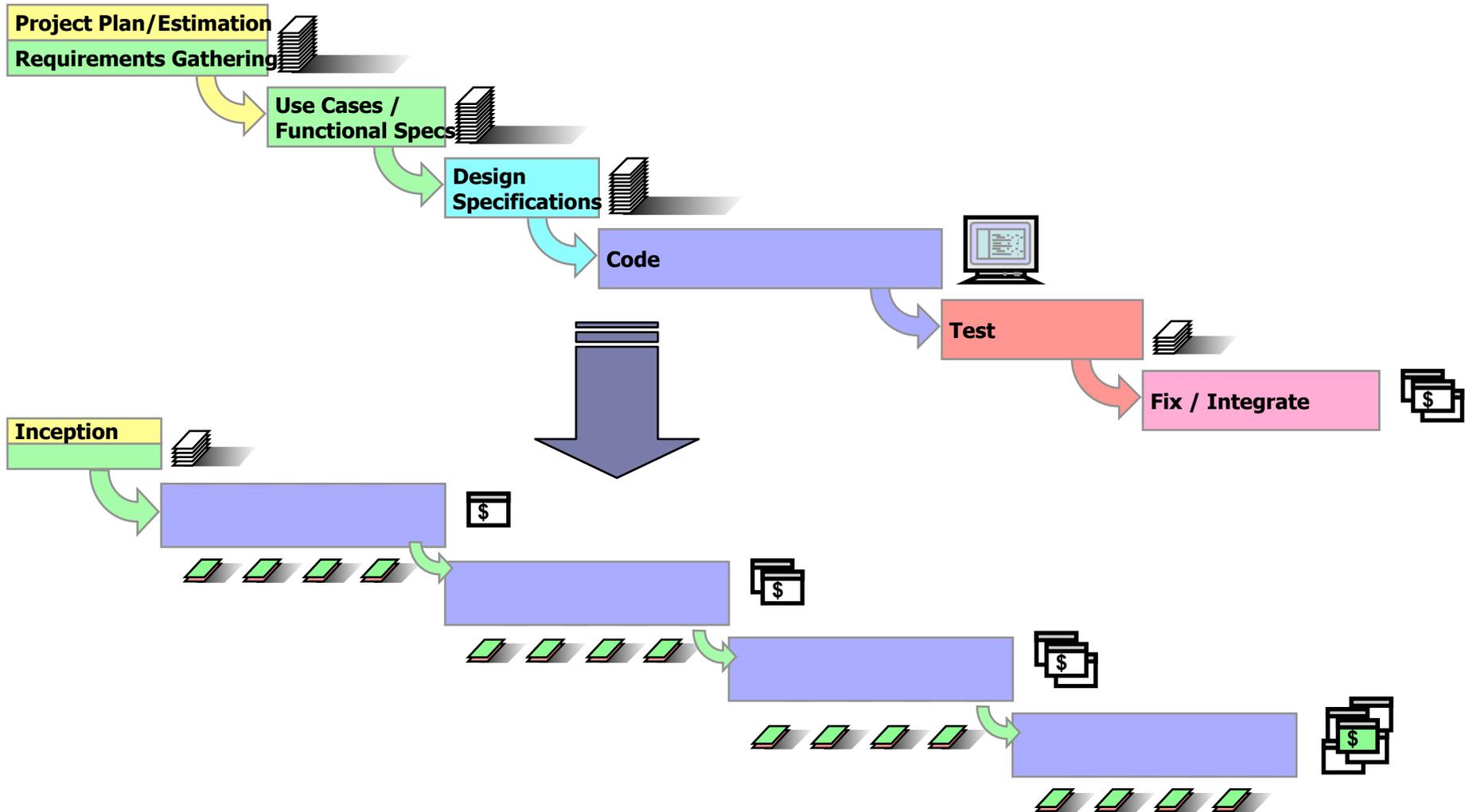
End-to-End  
small slices of  
work

## Applying Lean Principles to Software Development...cont.

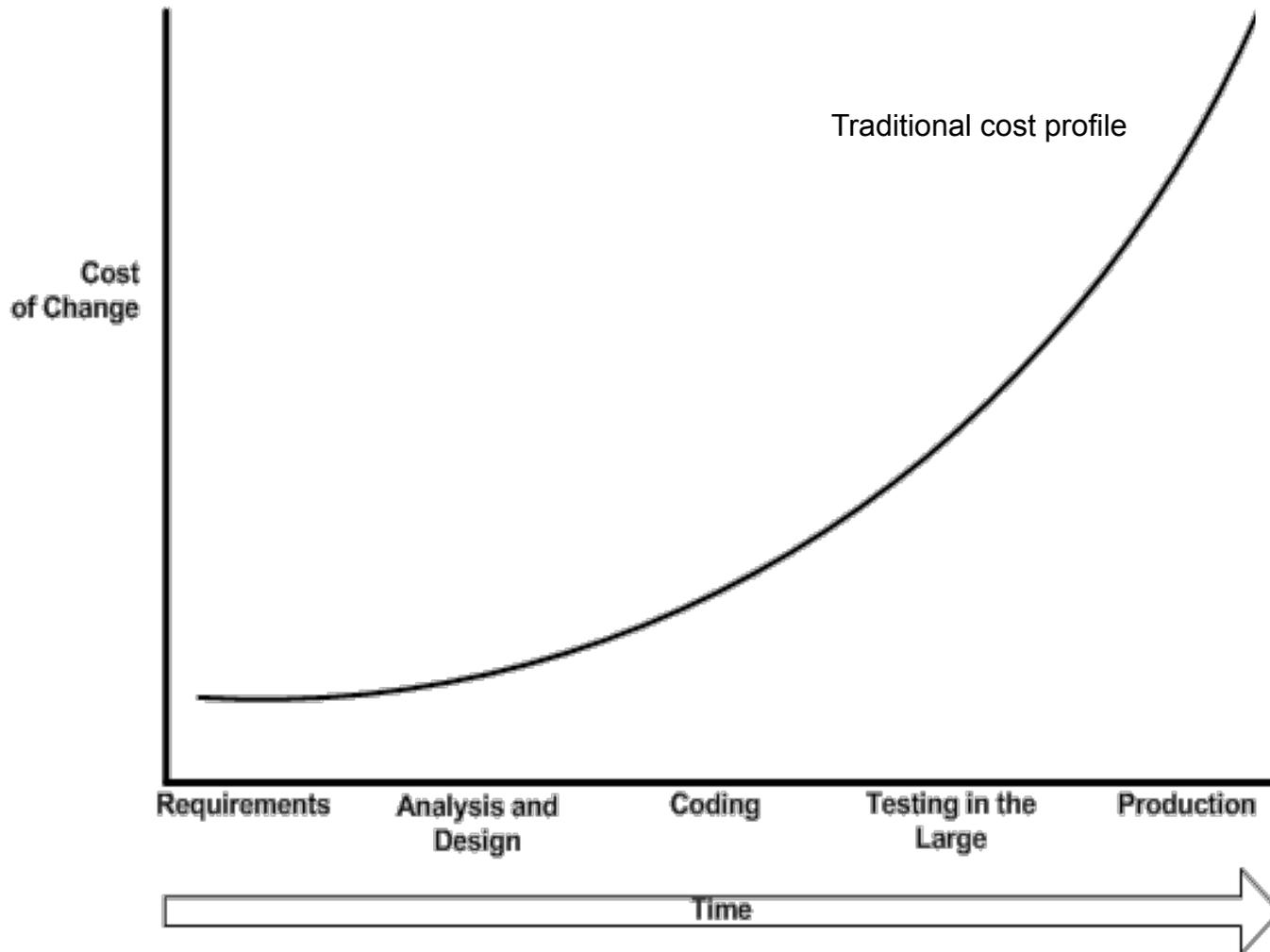
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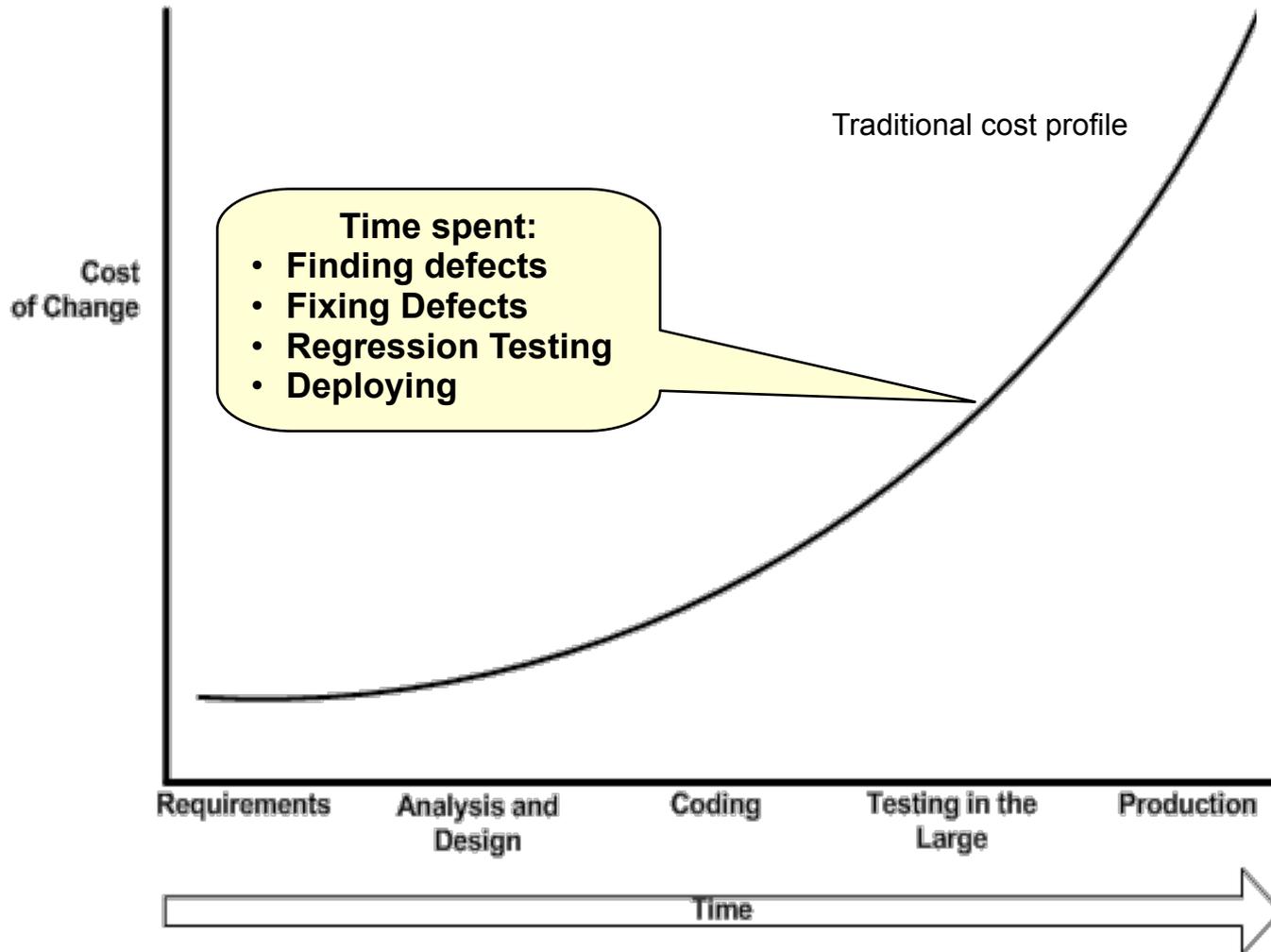
# Lean Principles applied to Software Development



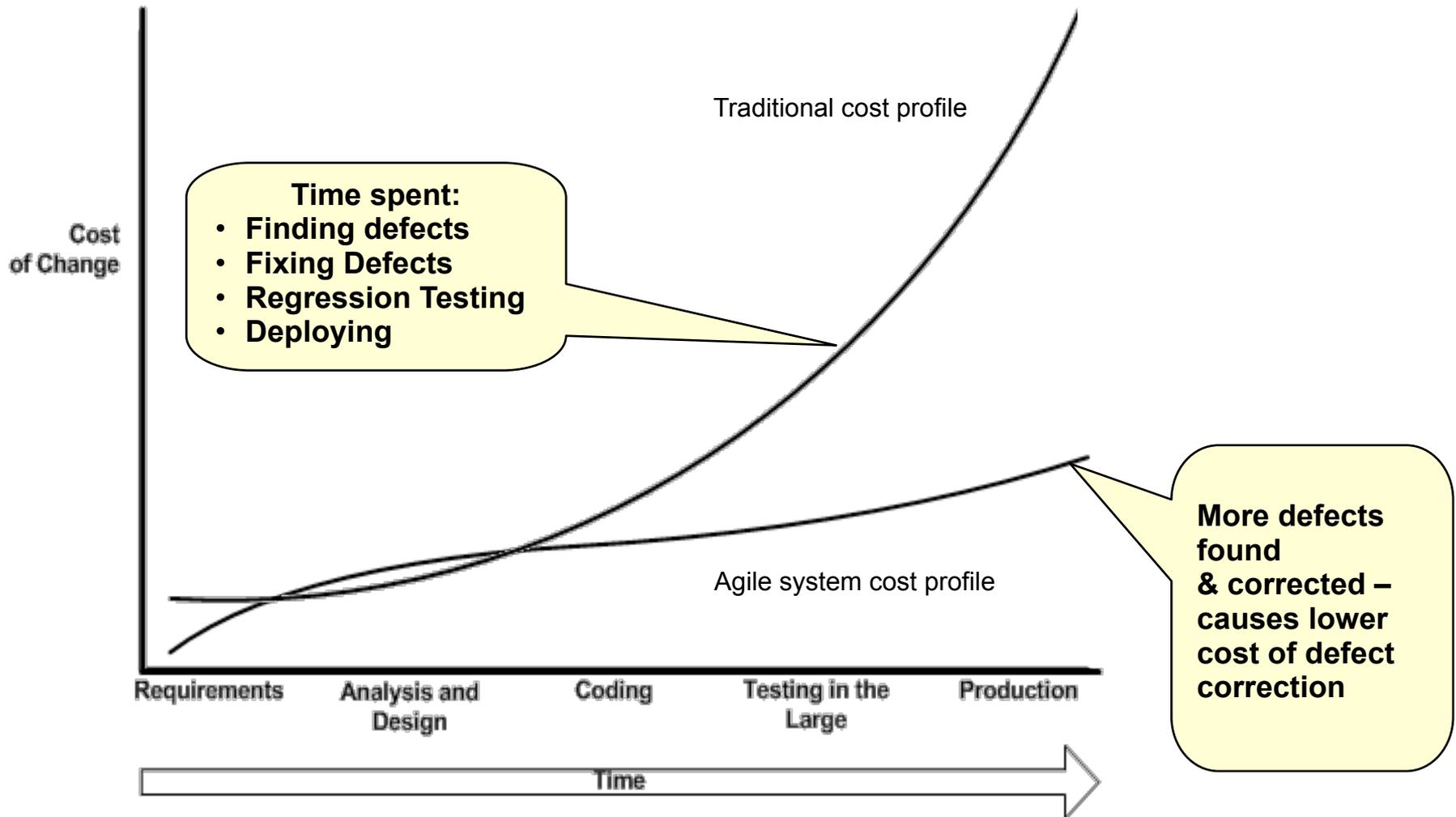
# Lower cost of change through higher quality software



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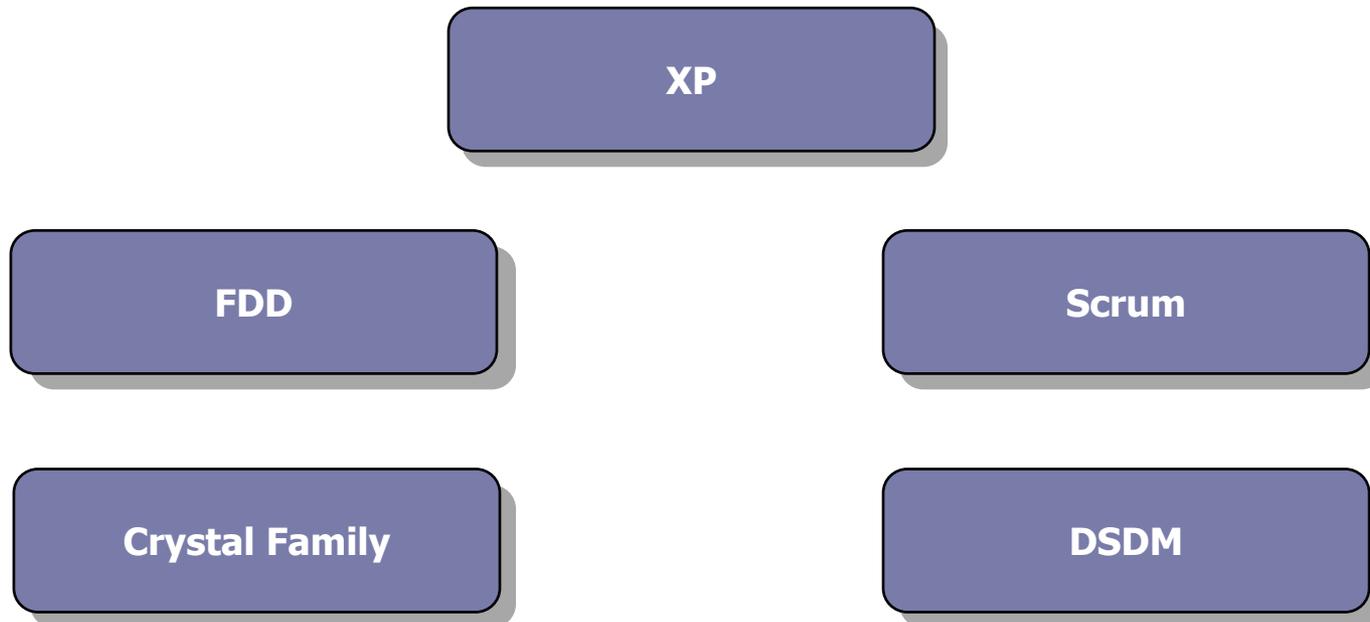


# Lower cost of change through higher quality software



## New Methodologies Emerged

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# 2000

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XP | Extreme Programming (Kent Beck)

DSDM | Dynamic System Development Method (Dane Faulkner)

FDD | Feature Driven Development (Jeff DeLuca)

SCRUM (Ken Schwaber)

Crystal (Alistair Cockburn)

Adaptive Software Development (Jim Highsmith)

Lean Software Development (Mary Poppendieck)

# 2001

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# Agile manifesto

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

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- **Responding to change** over following a plan.

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- **Individuals and interactions** over processes and tools.
- **Working software** over comprehensive documentation.
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That is, while there is value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.”

# Agile (XP) Values

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communication

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simplicity

## Agile (XP) Values

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feedback

## Agile (XP) Values

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communication

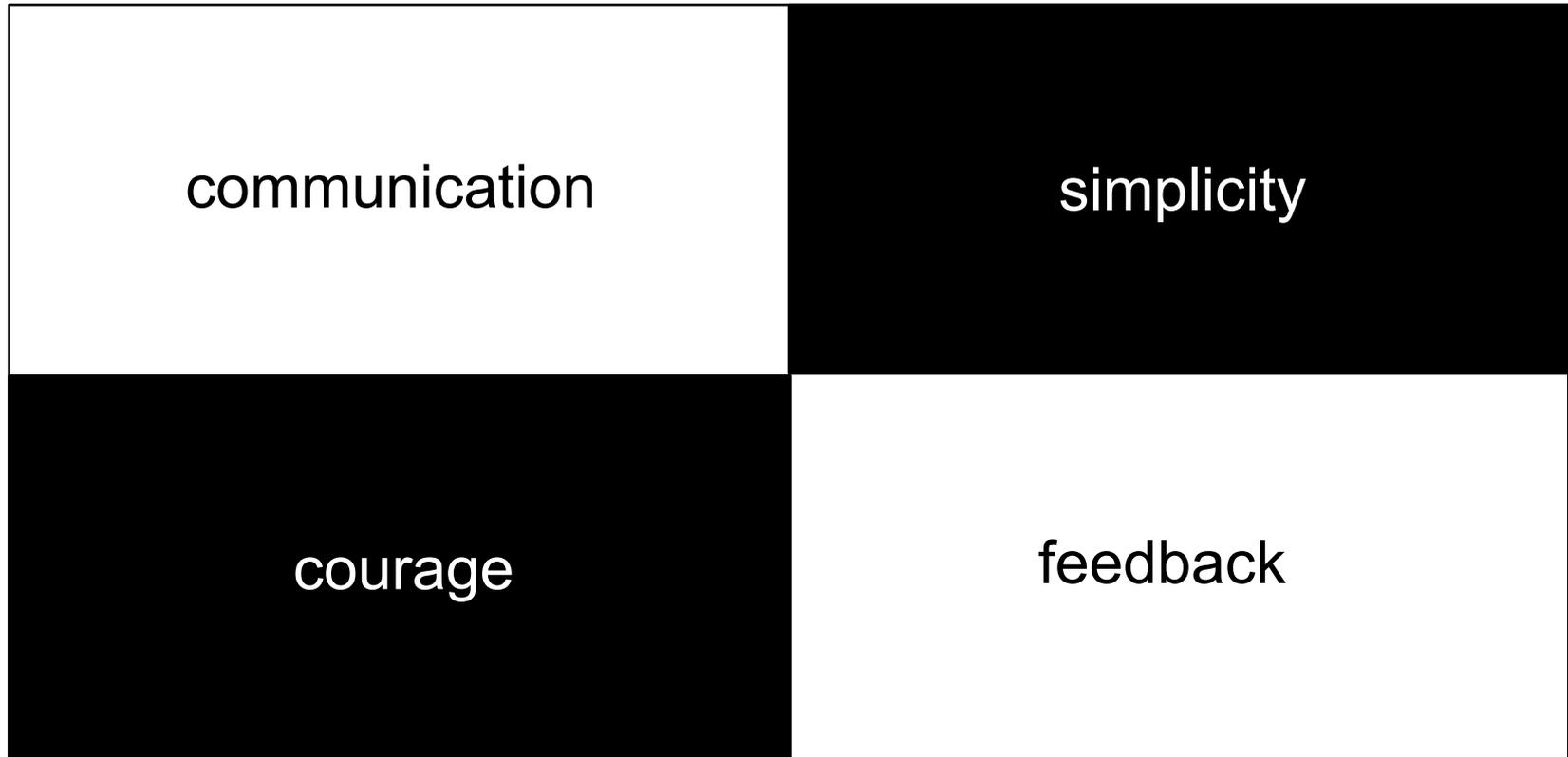
simplicity

courage

feedback

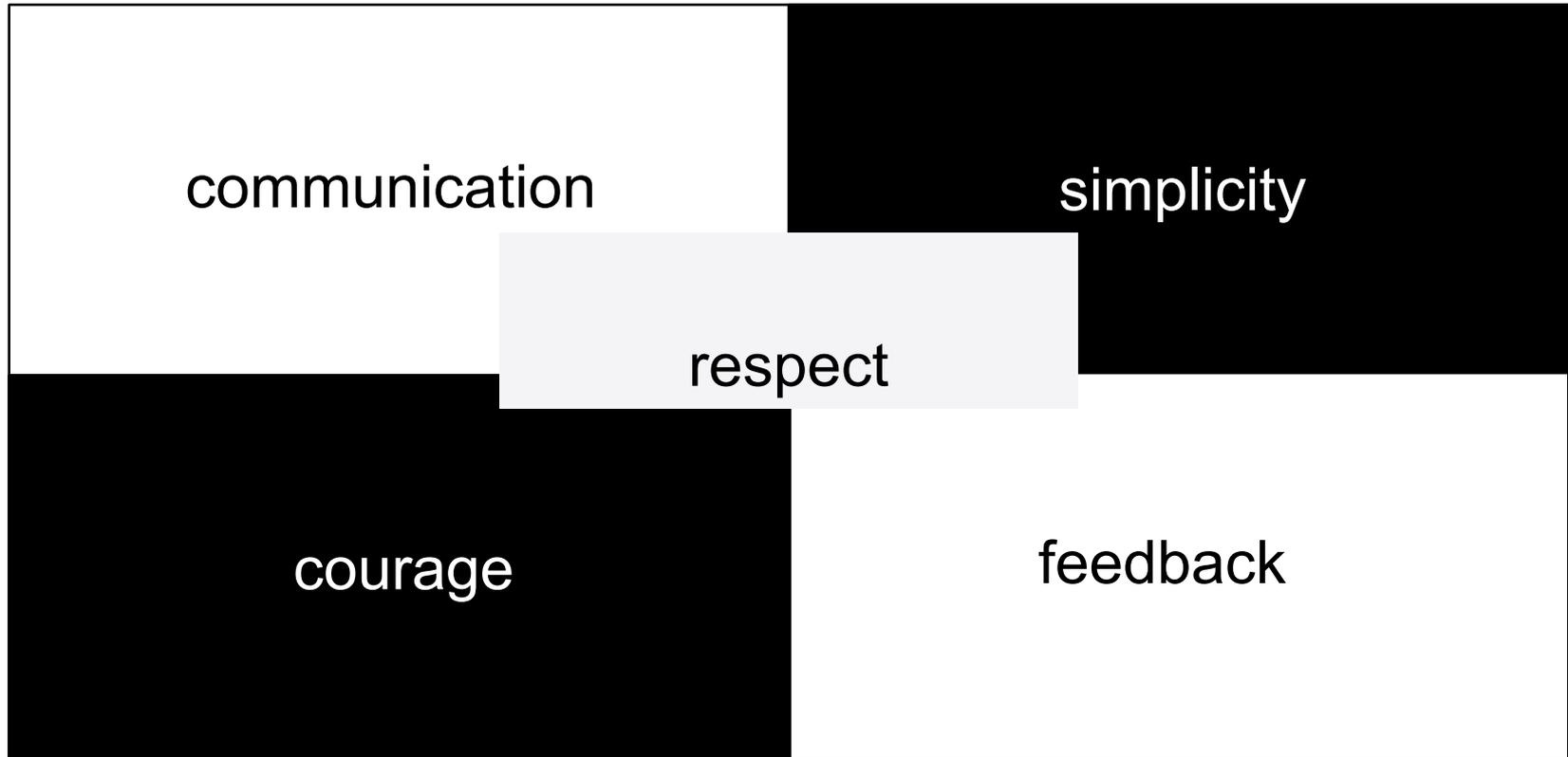
## Agile (XP) Values

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***Communication leads to valuable feedback which encourages simplicity which allows for courage to change***

## Agile (XP) Values



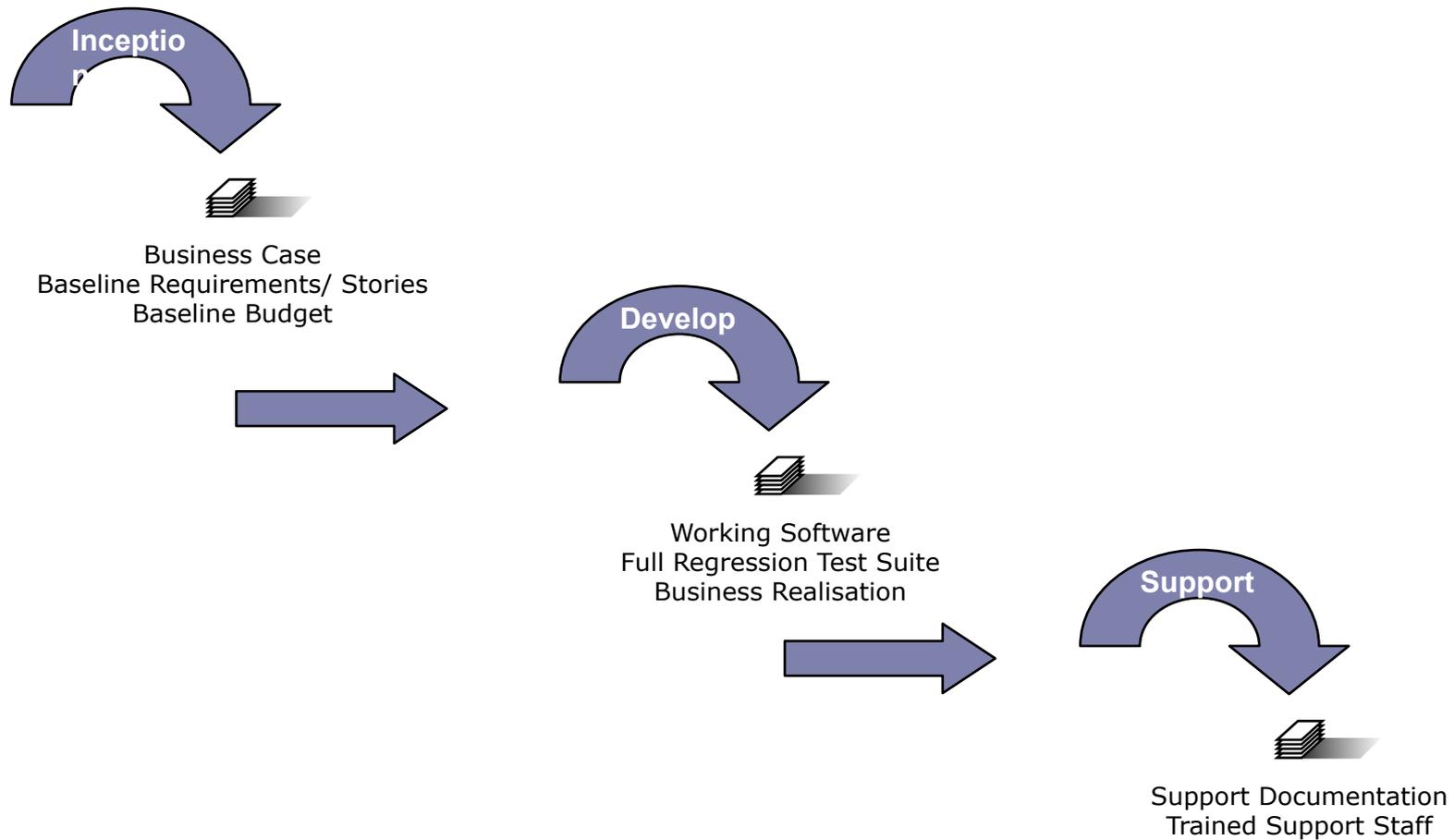
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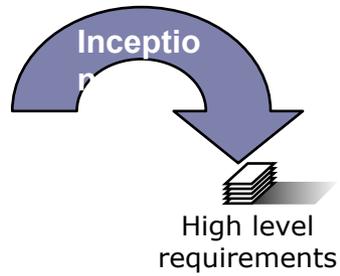
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## How Agile fits into software delivery

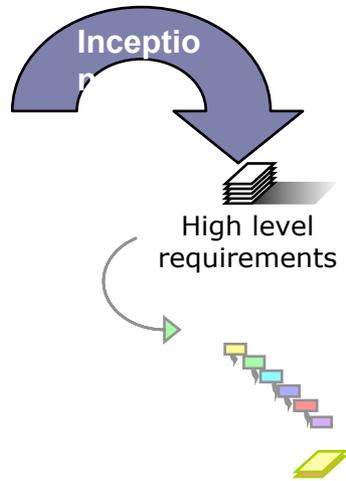


# Agile development is an iterative and incremental process

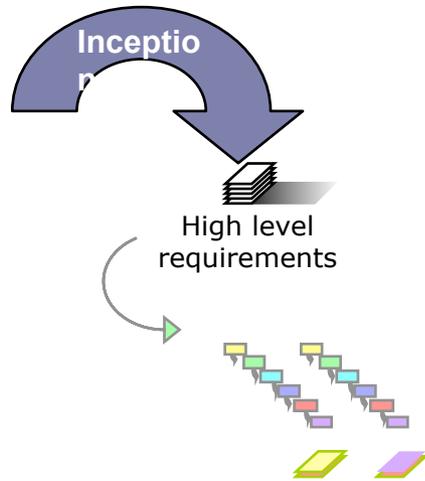
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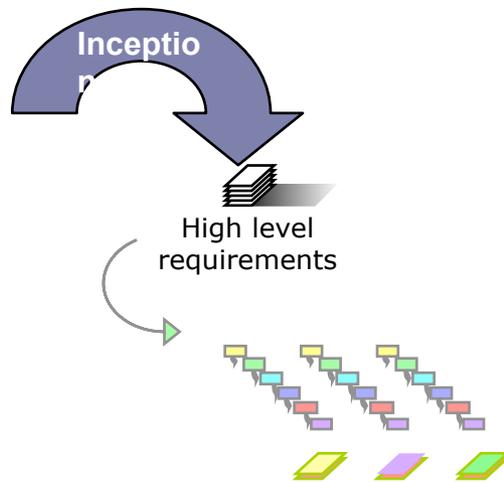
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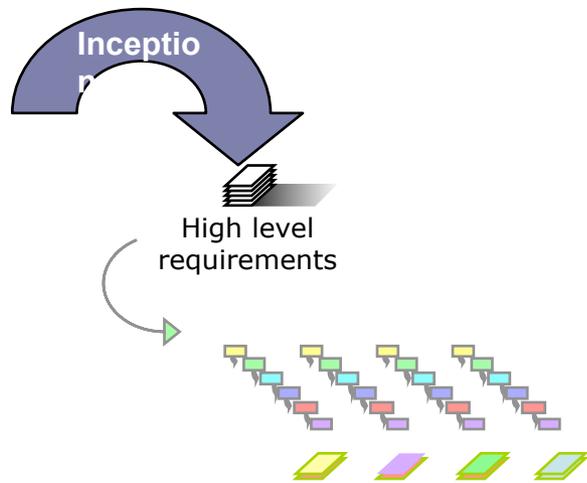
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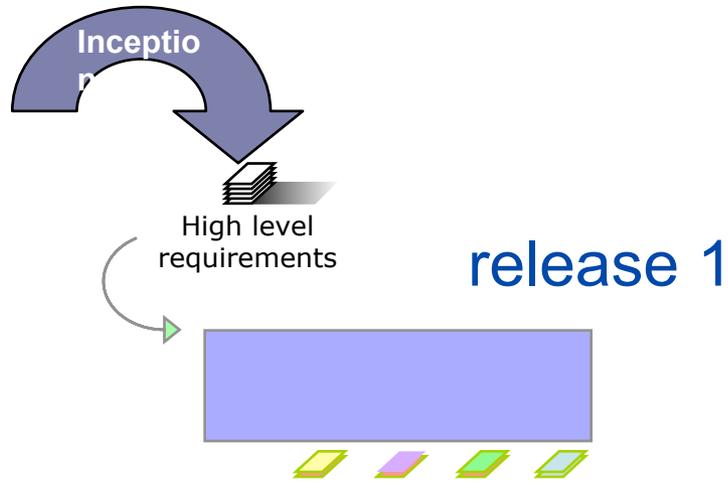
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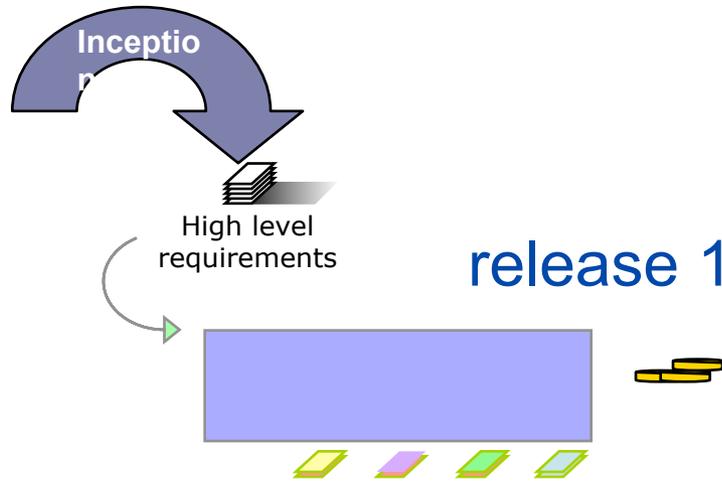
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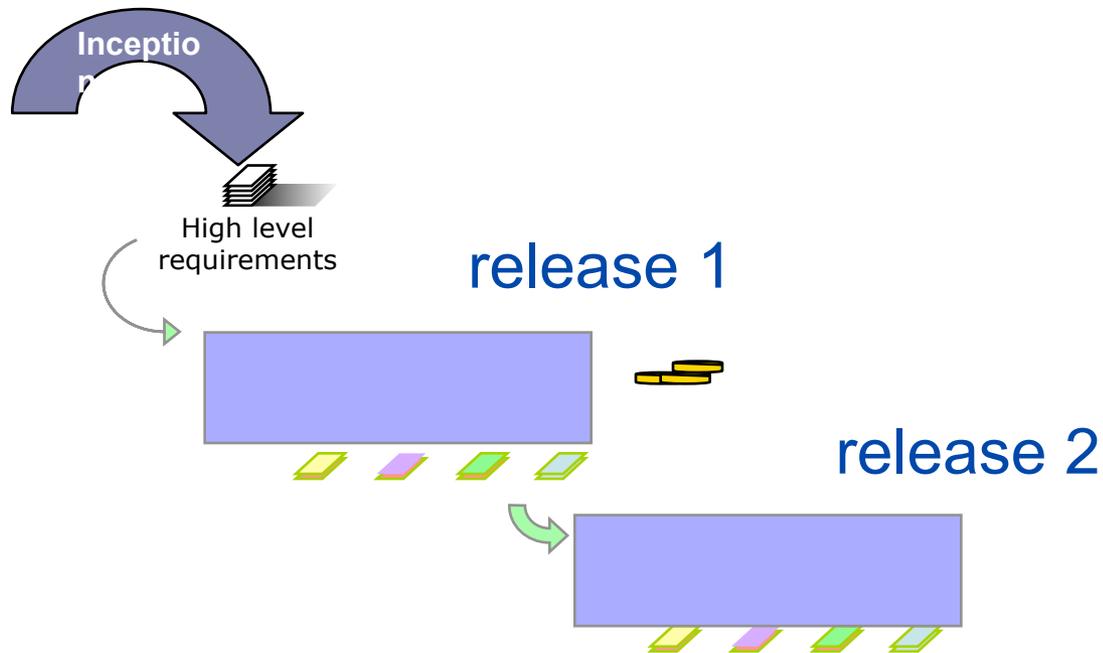
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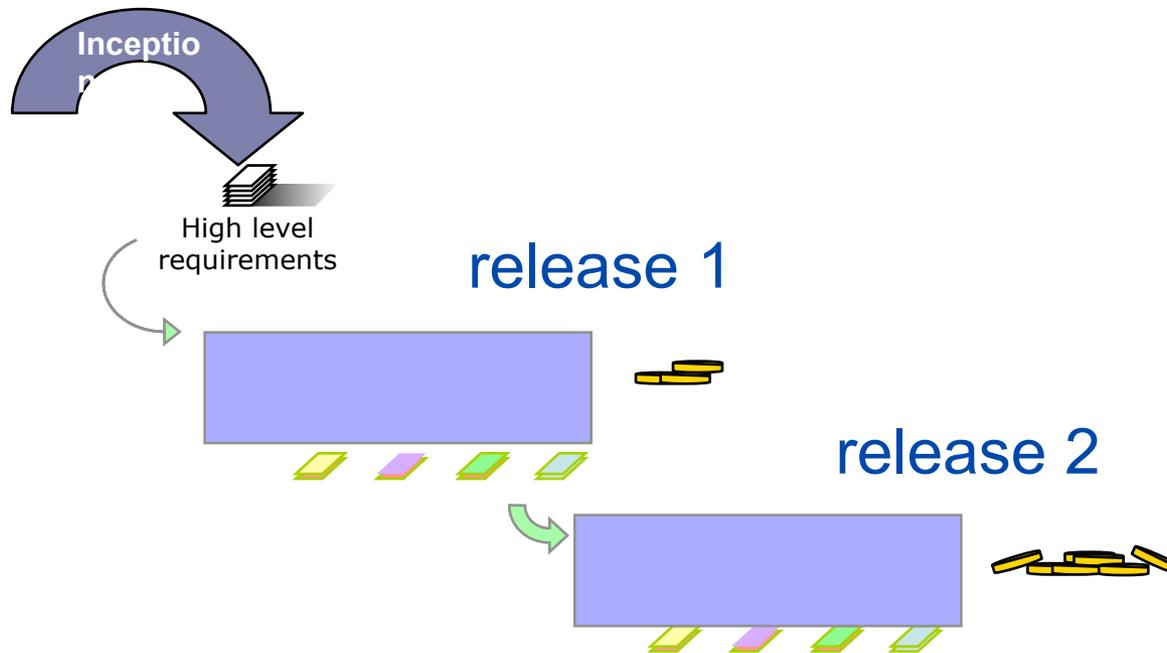
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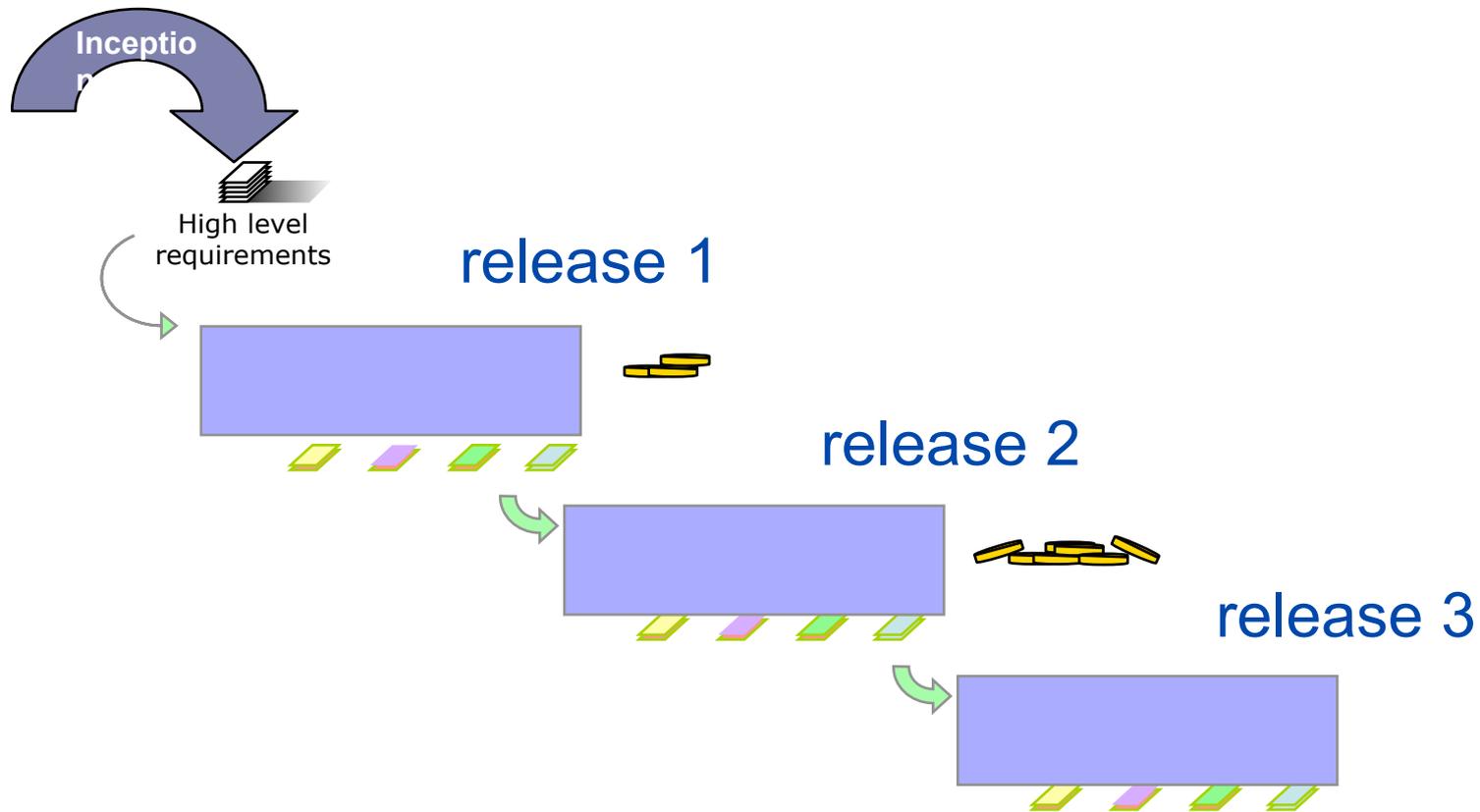
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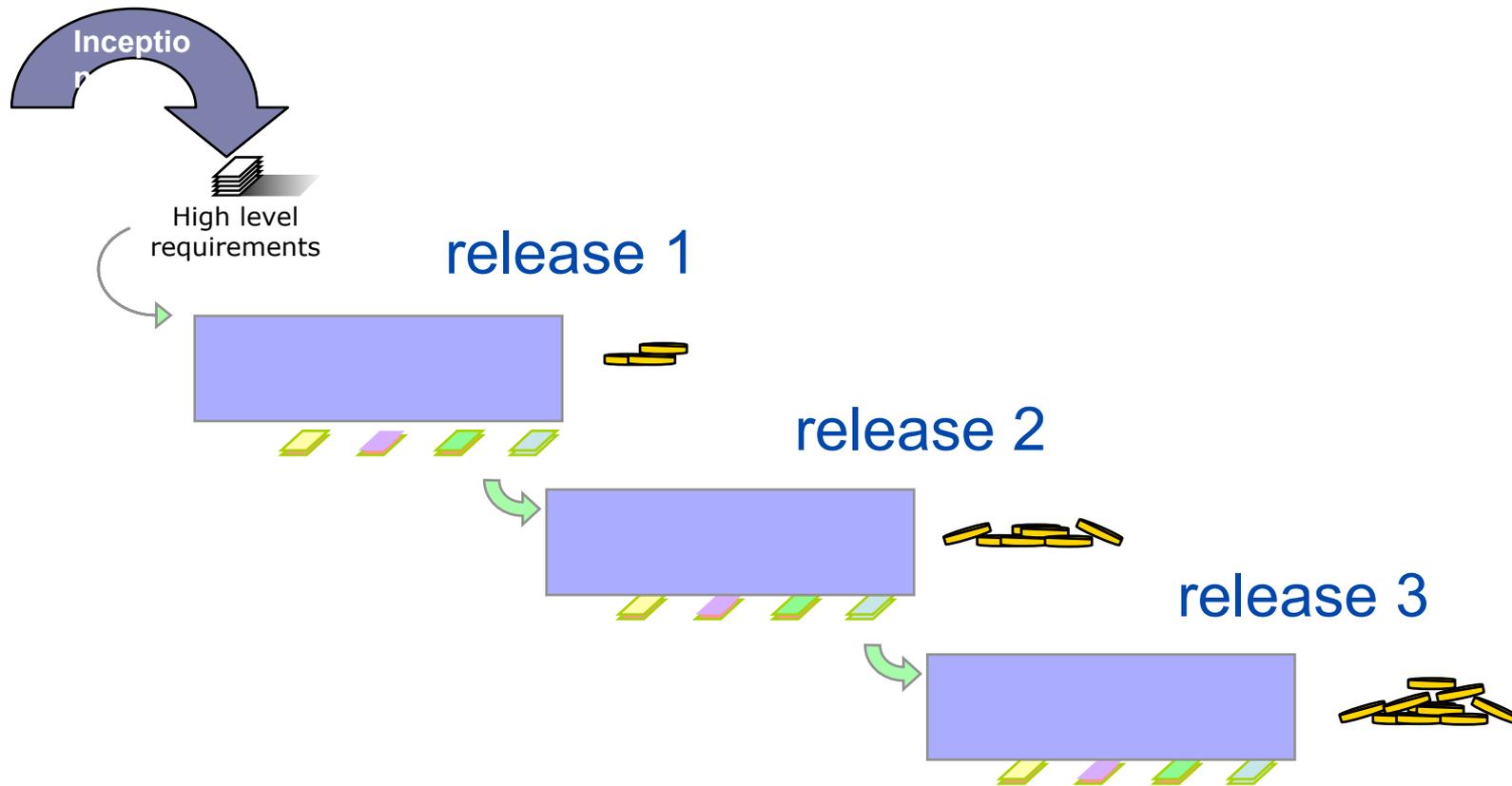
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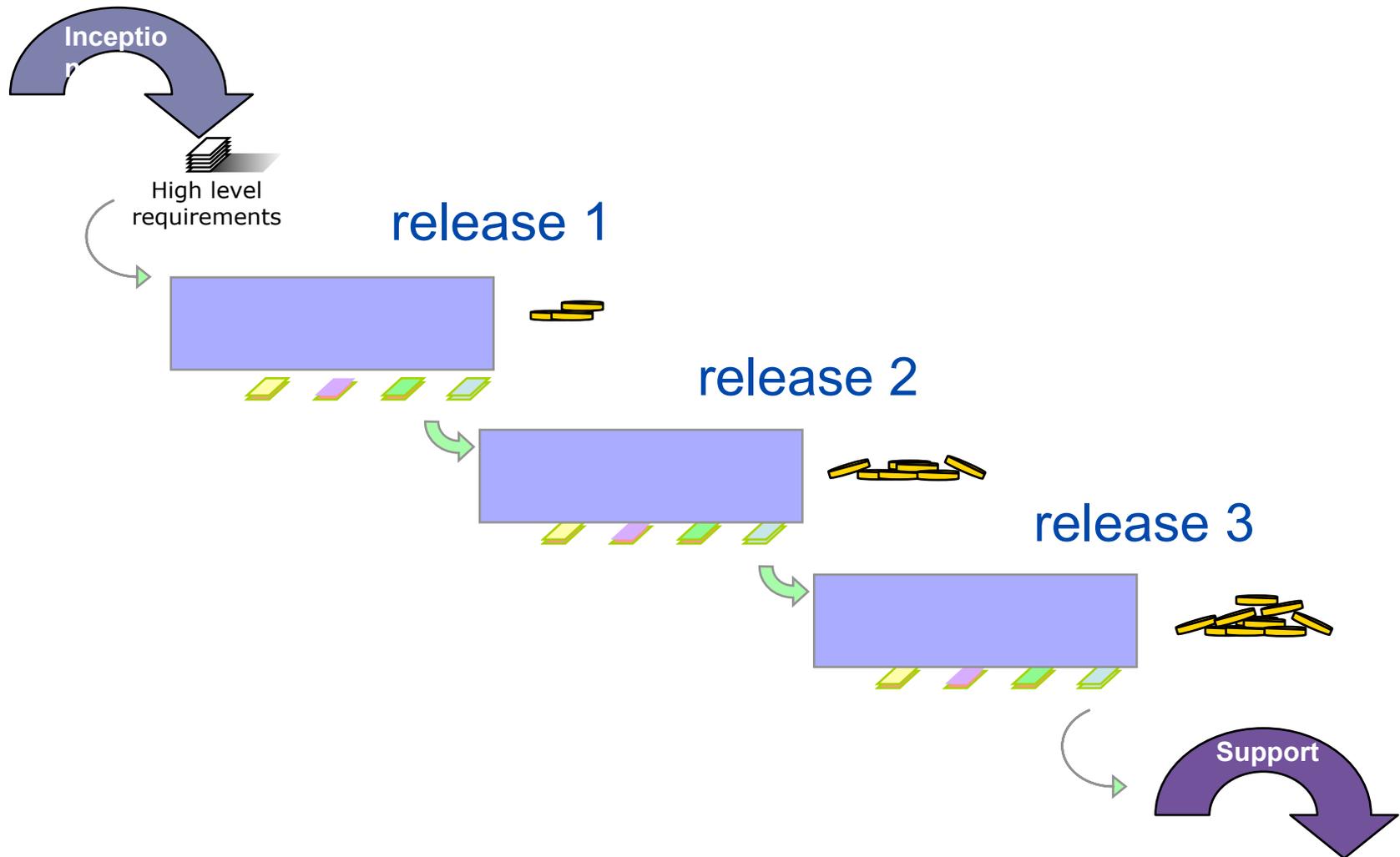
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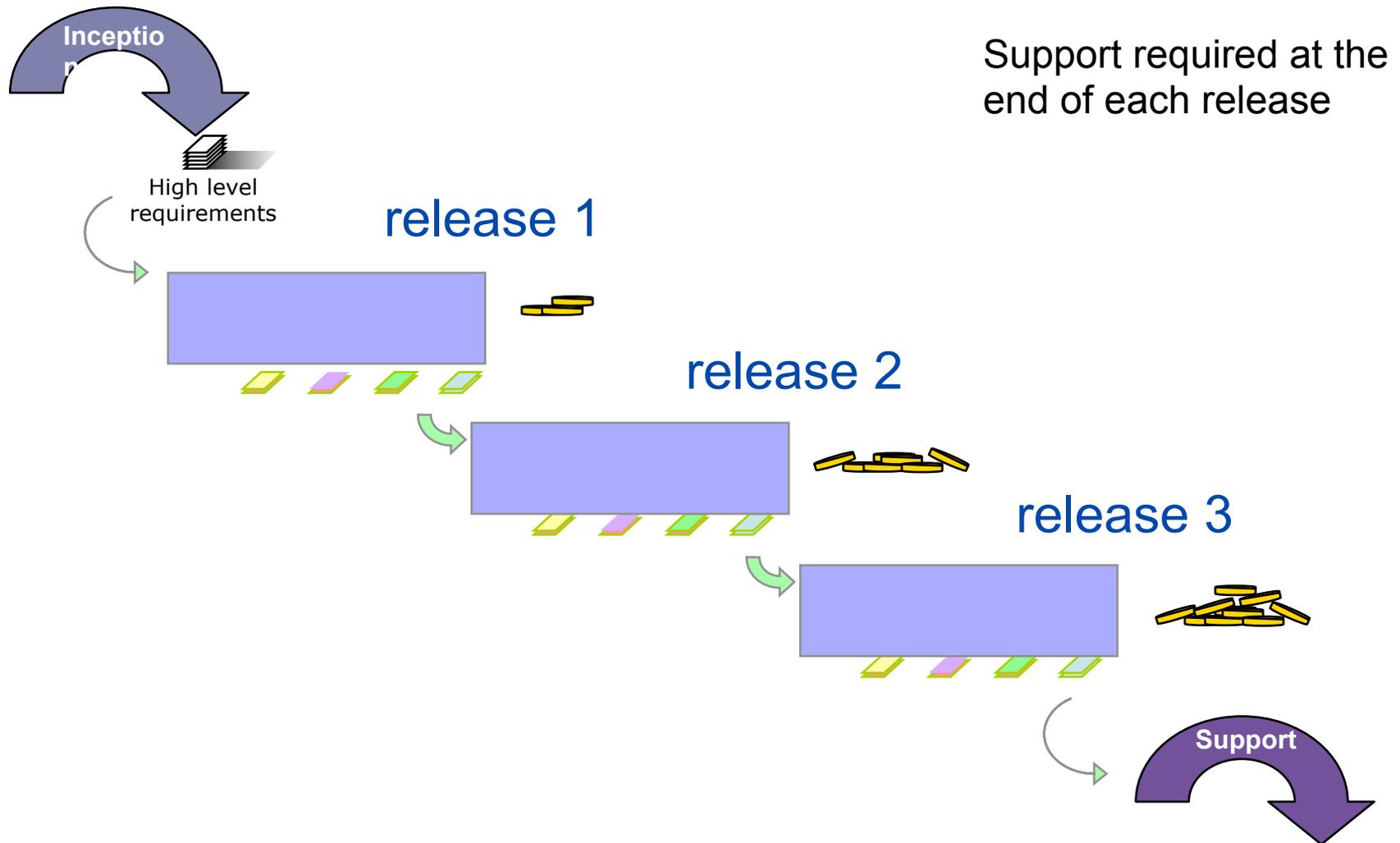
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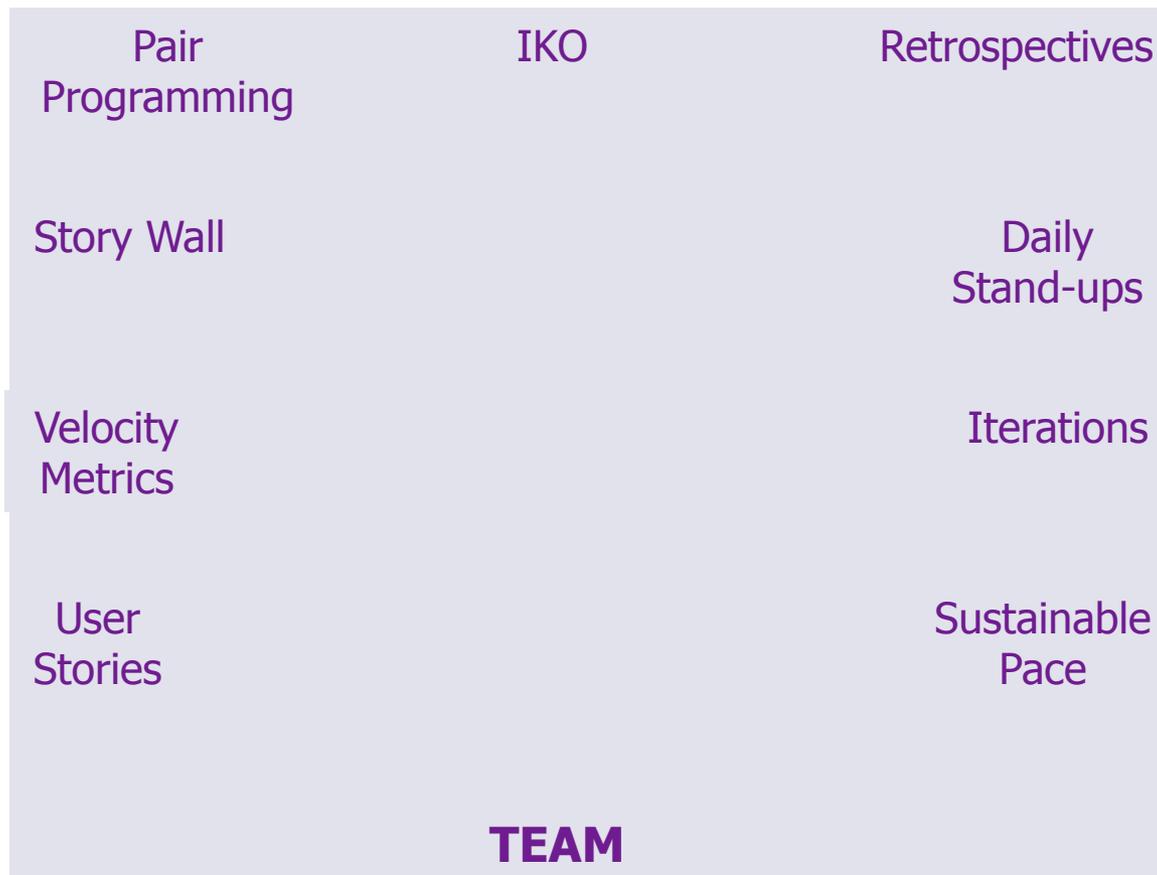
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# Agile Practices

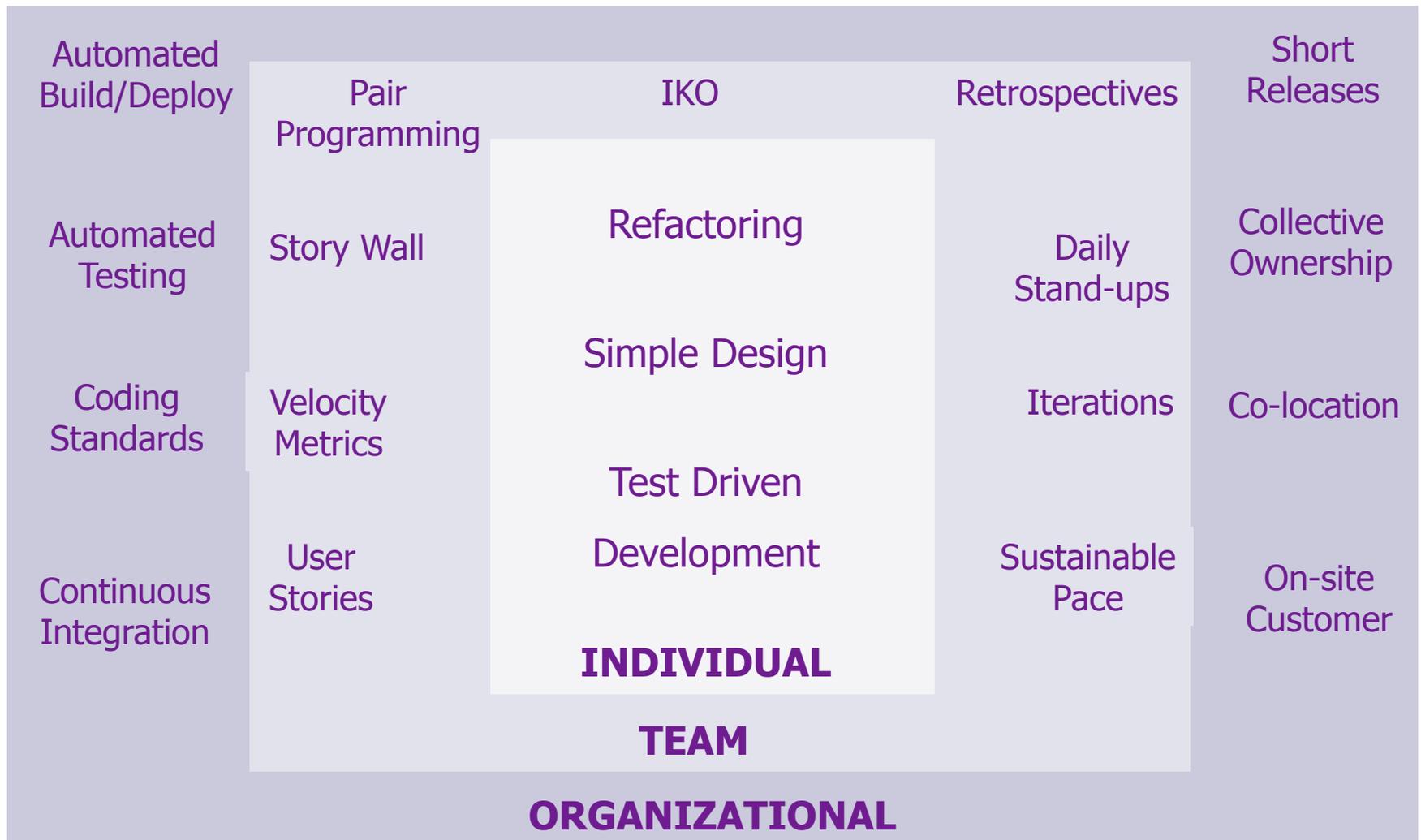
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# Agile Practices



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# Summary

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## Use of Agile methodologies

- Helps handle changing requirements & priorities
- Lowers cost of change
- Provides better visibility into project progress
- Reduces risk
- Maximizes return on investment (business value prioritized)
- Encourages higher quality, simpler code
- Delivers business value early & often

## Summary

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### **Use of Agile methodologies**

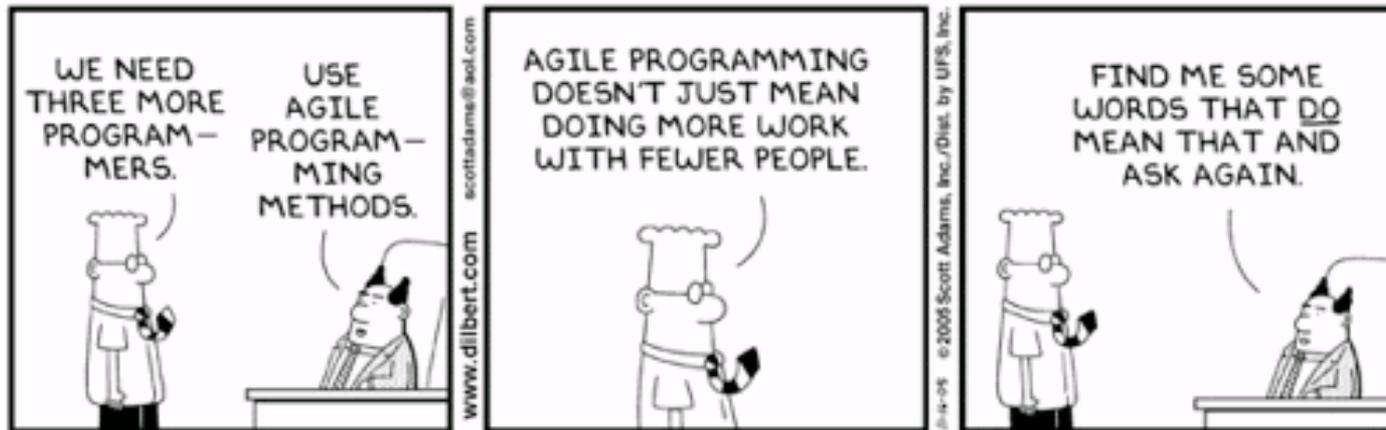
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### **But, with this capability comes**

- Constant business involvement
- A need for more discipline
- Greater emphasis on testing

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# Questions?



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## Thanks for attending!

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