



PROMS-G  
Project Management  
Specialist Group

Agile Spring School  
March 2010

# The Future of Agile 2010

## *A look at where Agile is going*

Allan Kelly, [allan@allankelly.net](mailto:allan@allankelly.net)

[www.allankelly.net](http://www.allankelly.net)

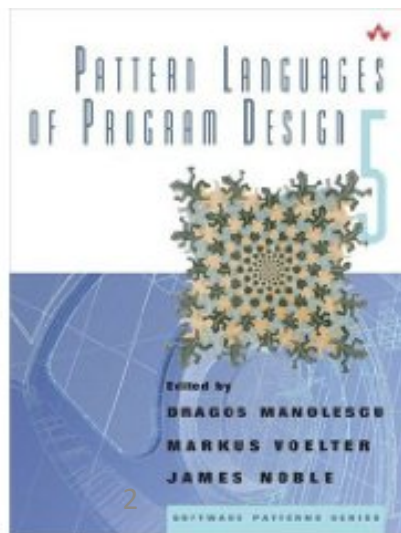
[blog.allankelly.net](http://blog.allankelly.net)

# Allan Kelly, BSc, MBA

Agile coach & consultant

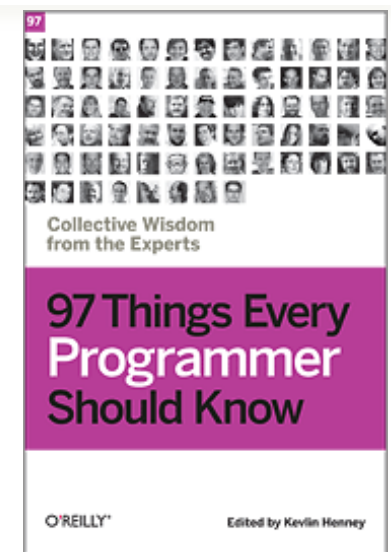
Author:

*Changing Software  
Development: Learning  
to Be Agile, Wiley 2008*



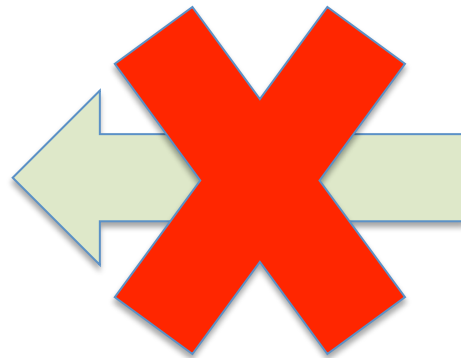
*97 Things Every Programmer Should Know,*  
Hennery, 2010

*Encapsulated Context in  
Pattern Languages of Program Design 5,*  
Manolescu, Voelter, Noble, 2006



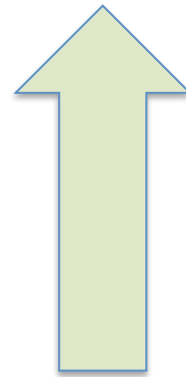
# Which way the future?

No going back  
Agile is here to stay

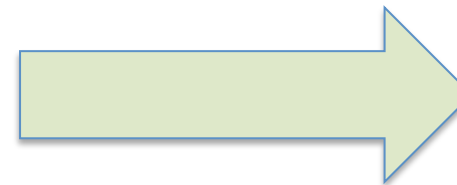


Those who have  
adopted Agile need  
to deepen practice

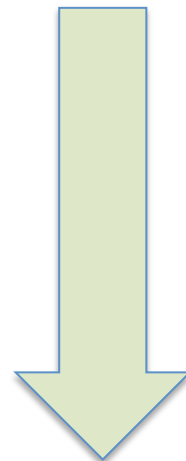
**Here  
today**



Enhancing Agile –  
latest trends



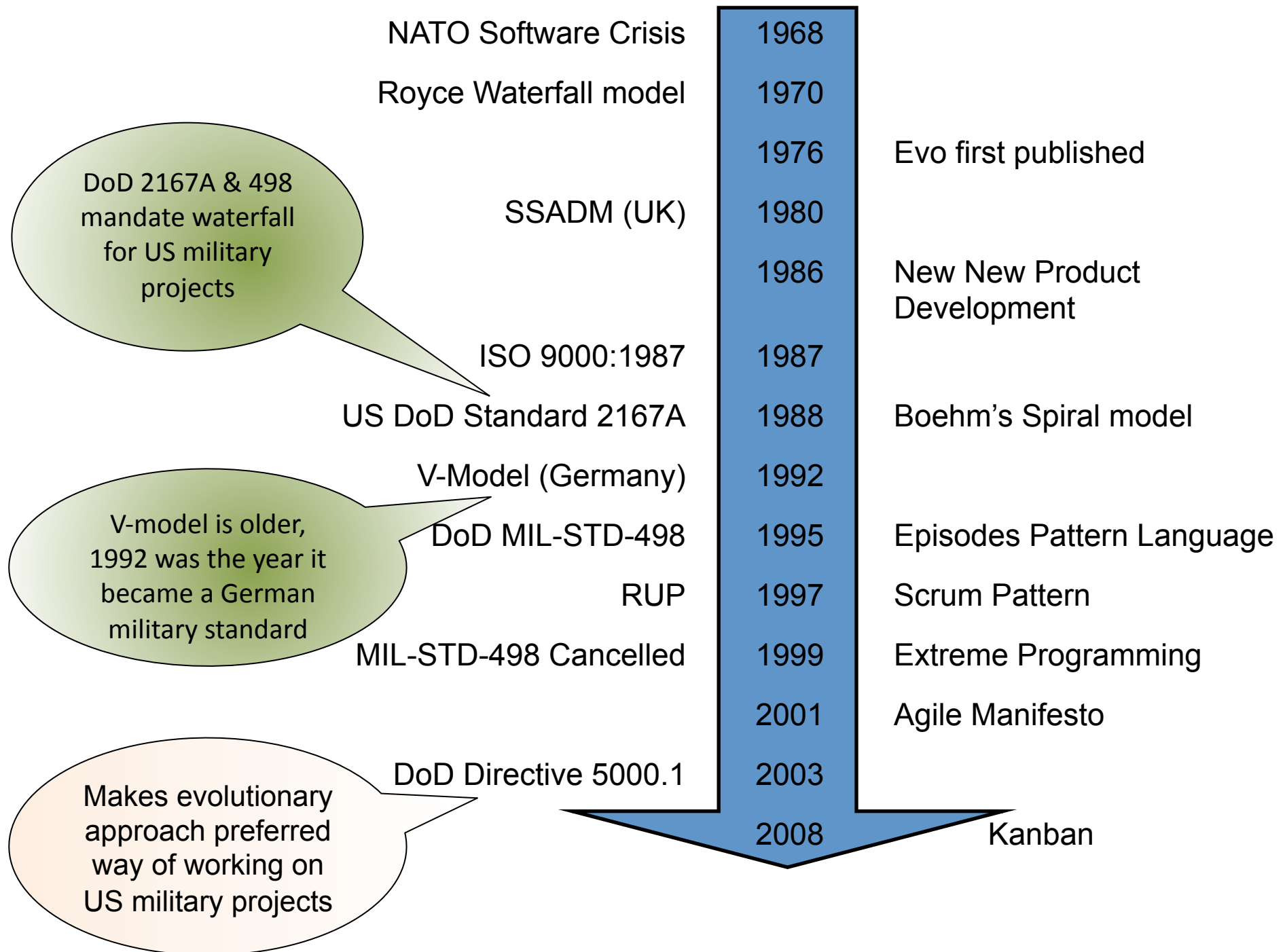
Many yet to change  
How?



# No going back

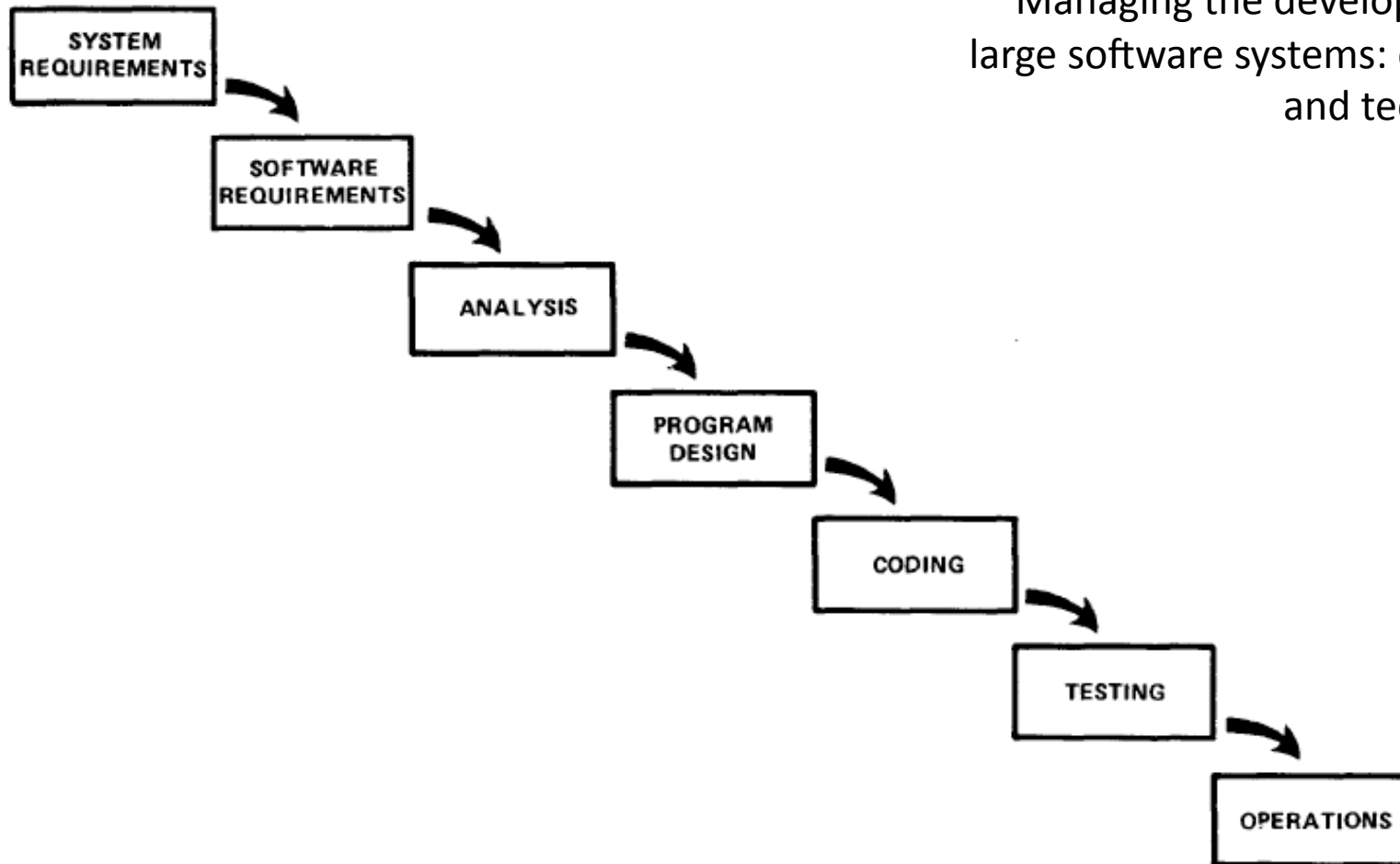
History and context



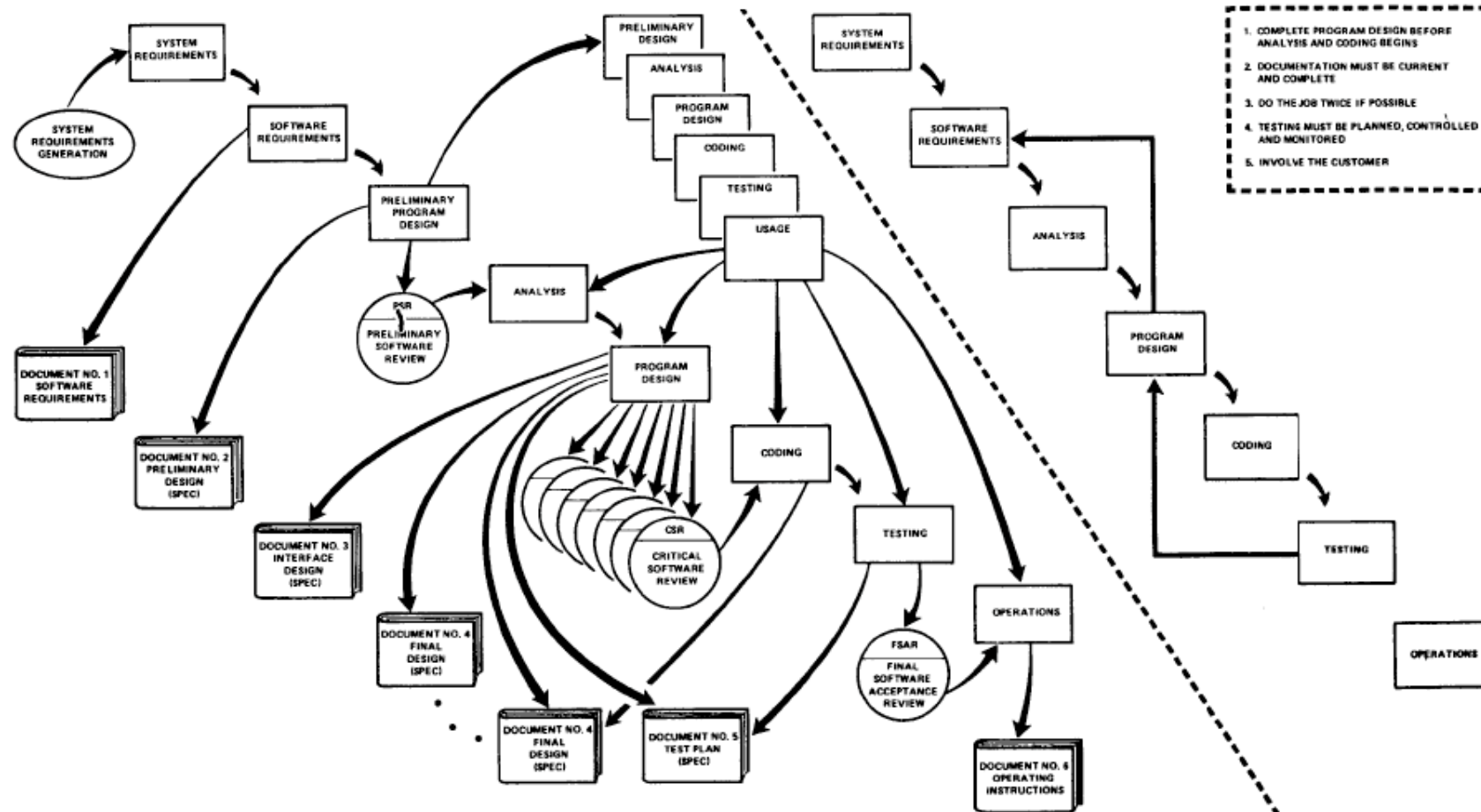


# Royce, 1970

Managing the development of  
large software systems: concepts  
and techniques



# Royce, 1970



# *Deepening Agile*



# Nokia Agile test from Bas Voode

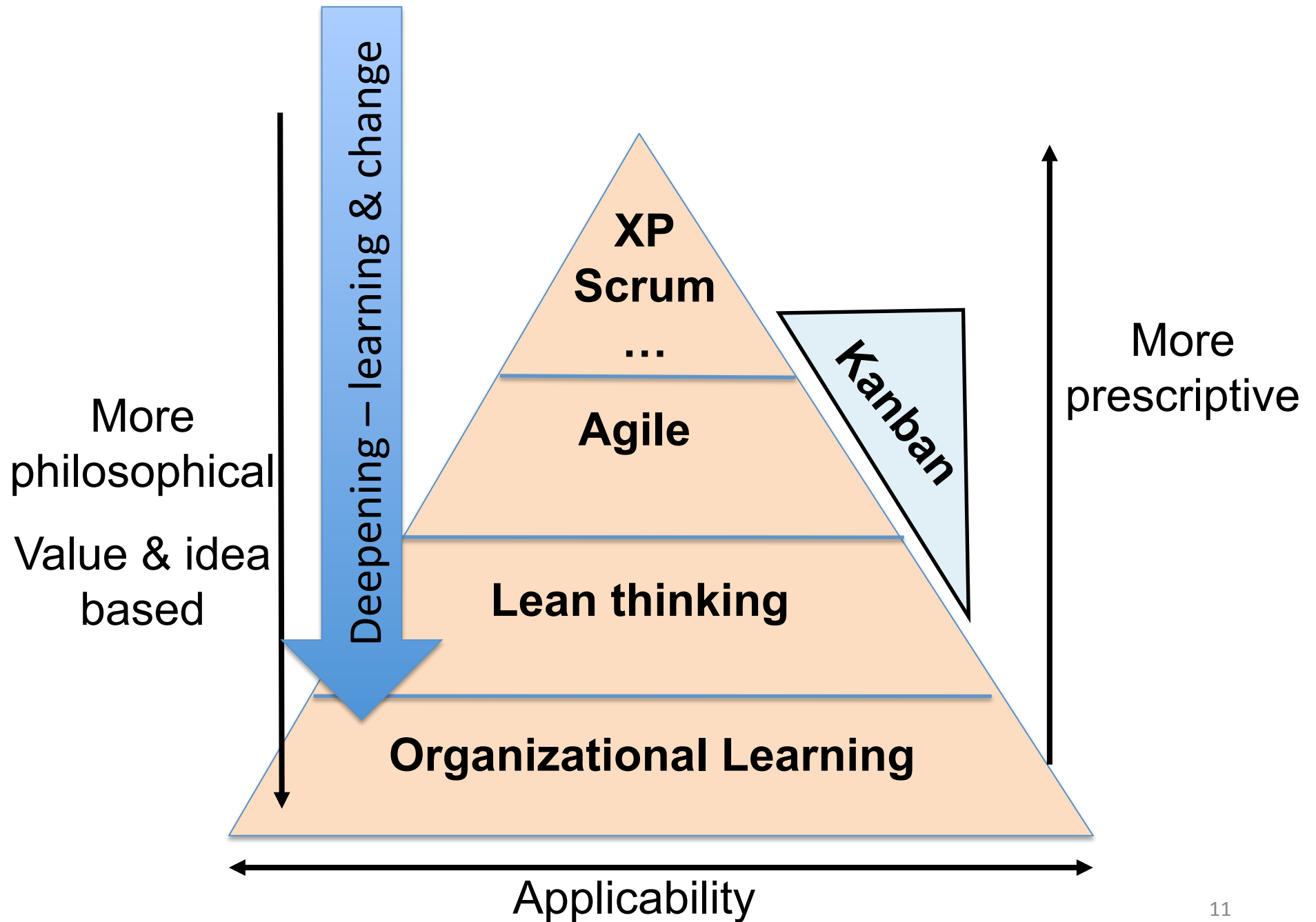
1. Are you doing Iterative Development?
  - Iterations timeboxed to less than 4 weeks
  - Features tested and working at the end of each iteration
  - Iteration starts before specification is complete
2. Are you are doing Scrum?
  - You know who the product owner is
  - There is a product backlog
    - Prioritized by business value
    - With estimates created by the team
  - Team generates burndown charts and knows velocity
  - No project managers (or anyone else) disrupting the work of the team



# Three tests of Agile

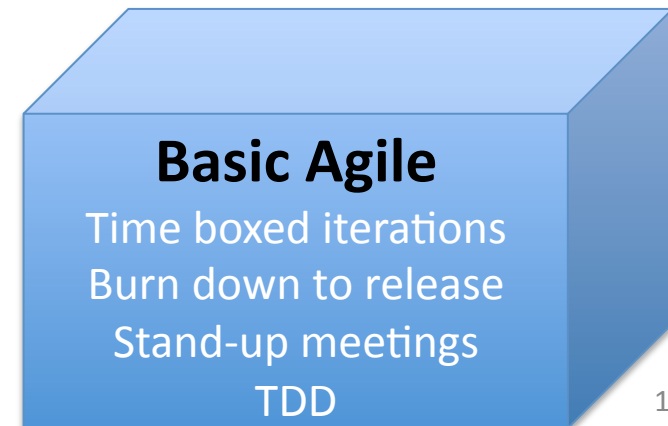
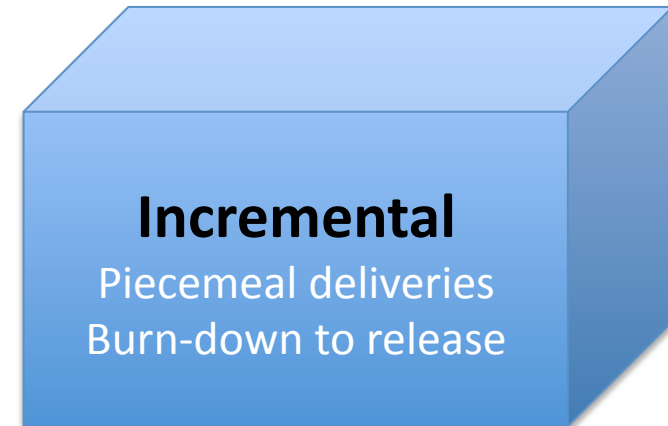
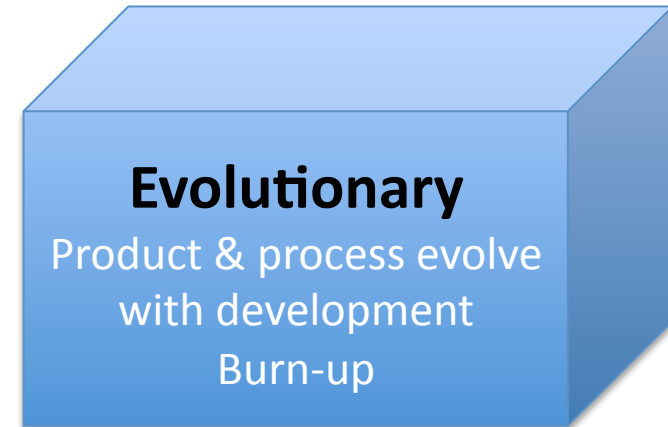
1. Is the team delivering business value to the customer (market) ?
2. Is the team learning, changing and improving?
3. When the consultants, trainers and coaches who introduced Agile leave, are you still Agile?





# Deepening Agile

- Adopt more practices
- Organization structure supports Agile
- Enhance learning
- Expand boundaries
- Embrace change



What are we building?

Right Team

Did we build it right?



~~End Foie Gras recruitment~~

1:3 -> 1:7

1:3 -> 1:7

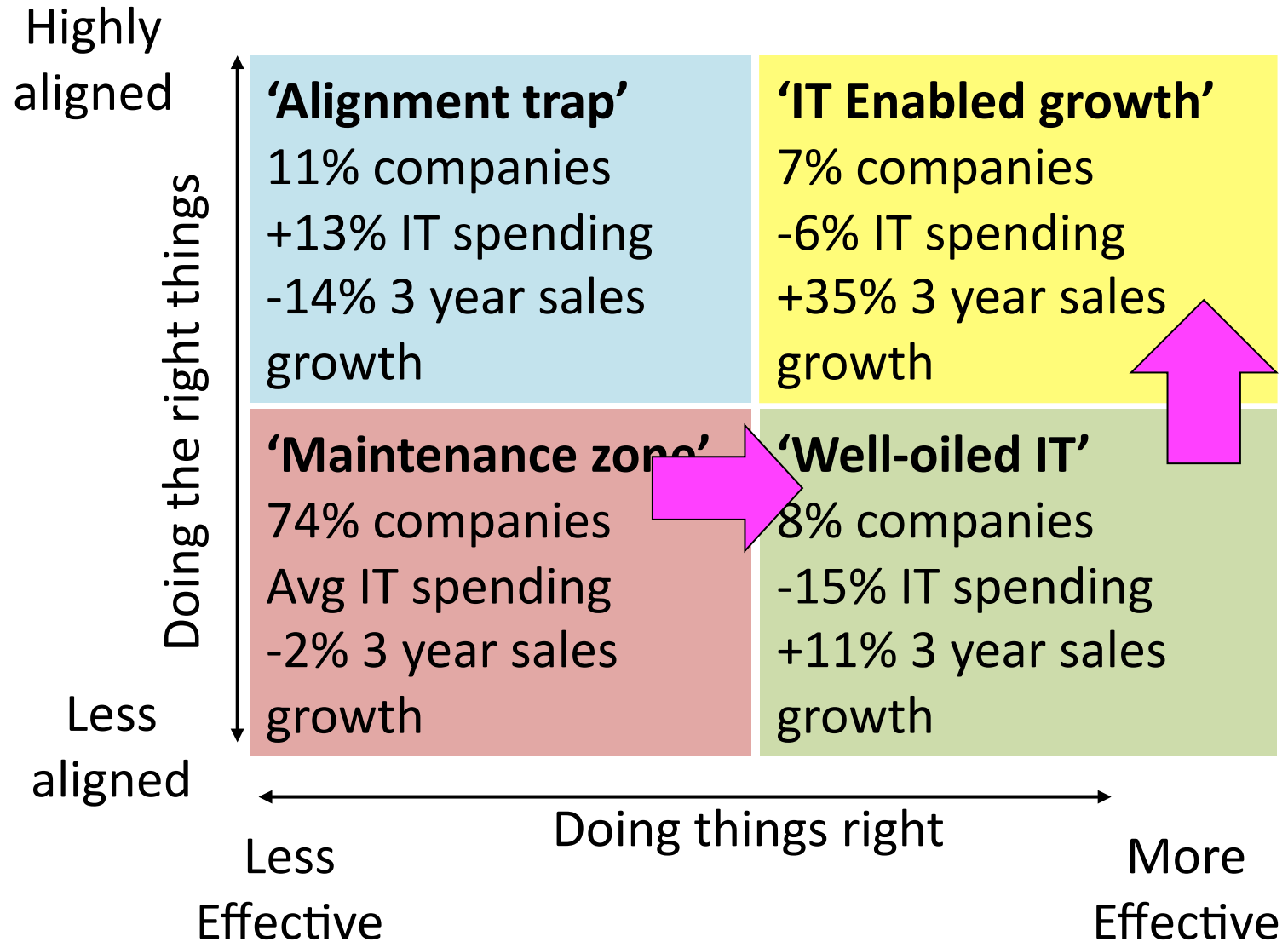


# Back to the Future

*What not How*  
and  
*The Return of the ...*  
~~*Product Manager*~~  
~~*Business Analyst*~~  
~~*Customer*~~  
*Product Owner*



# The Alignment Trap



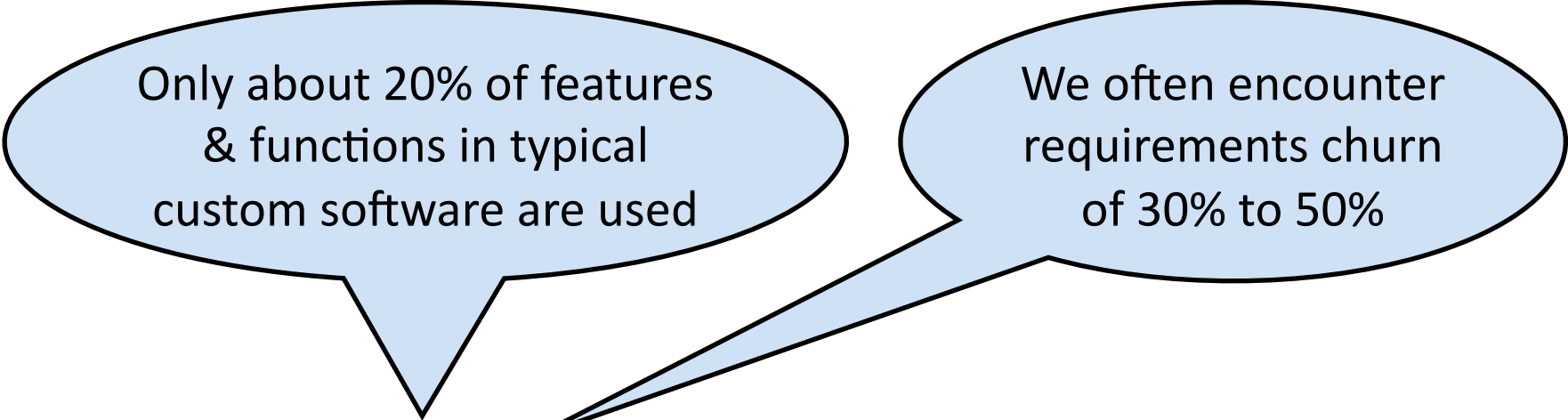
Source: Shpilberg, Berez, Puryear, Shah: MIT Sloan Review, Fall 2007

# Return of the Product Owner (BA / Product Manager)

- Agile currently fixes *How*
  - Time to look again at the *What*
  - A job for the Product Owner
- User Stories are not enough
  - How do you know what to put on them?
- Features are not the only fruit
  - “Non functional” requirements
- Are you delivering business value?



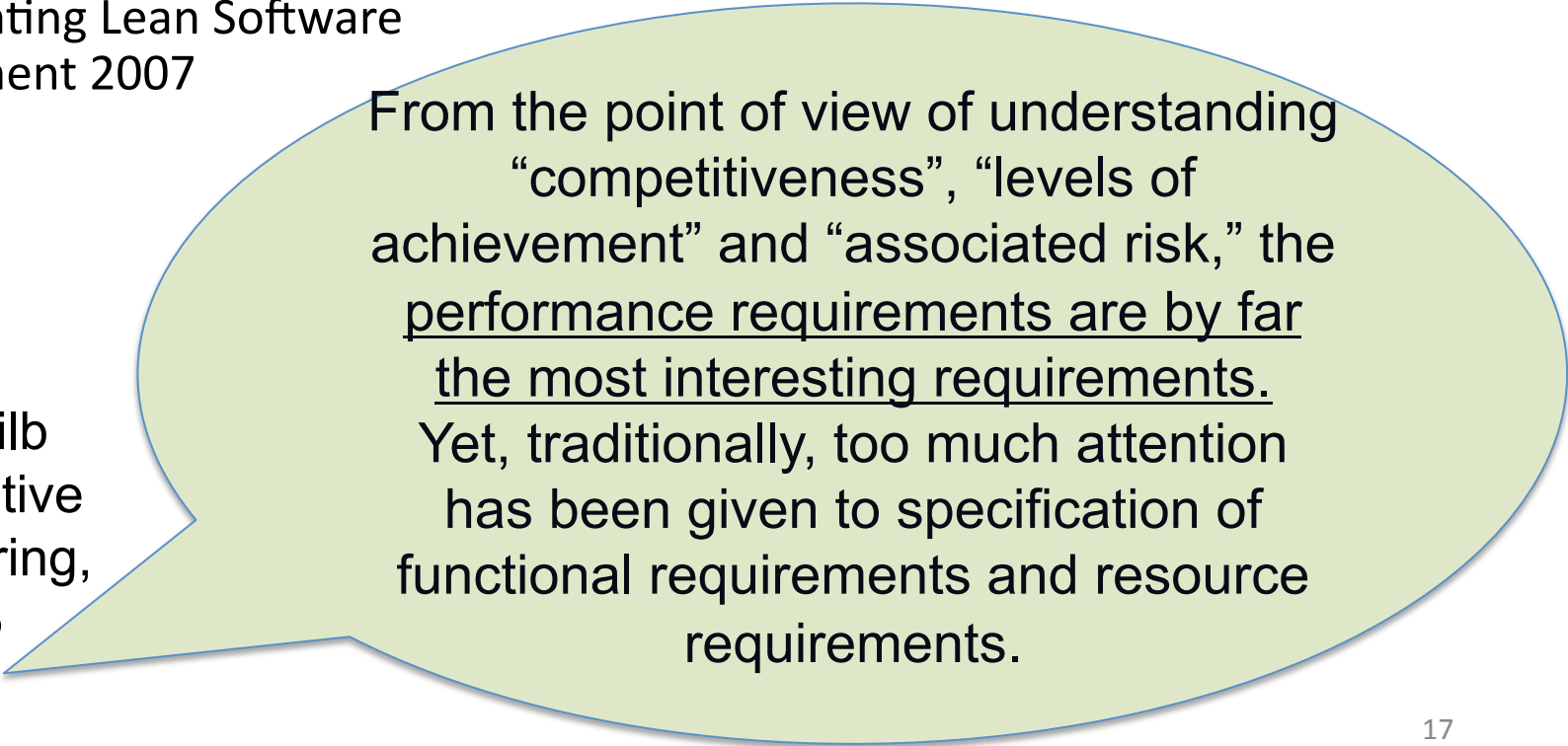




Only about 20% of features  
& functions in typical  
custom software are used

We often encounter  
requirements churn  
of 30% to 50%

Mary & Tom Poppendieck  
Implementing Lean Software  
Development 2007



From the point of view of understanding  
“competitiveness”, “levels of  
achievement” and “associated risk,” the  
performance requirements are by far  
the most interesting requirements.  
Yet, traditionally, too much attention  
has been given to specification of  
functional requirements and resource  
requirements.

Tom Gilb  
Competitive  
Engineering,  
2005

# Moving to Agile

*How do I get from here to there?*



# History

- Agile has been a bottom-up change initiative
  - Developers just started doing it
  - Little or no management instruction
  - Managers seen as a problem
- Top-down change initiatives have poor record
  - ISO-9000, CMM(I), BPR, ...
- Largely ignored business need (requirements)
  - Focus on development effectiveness

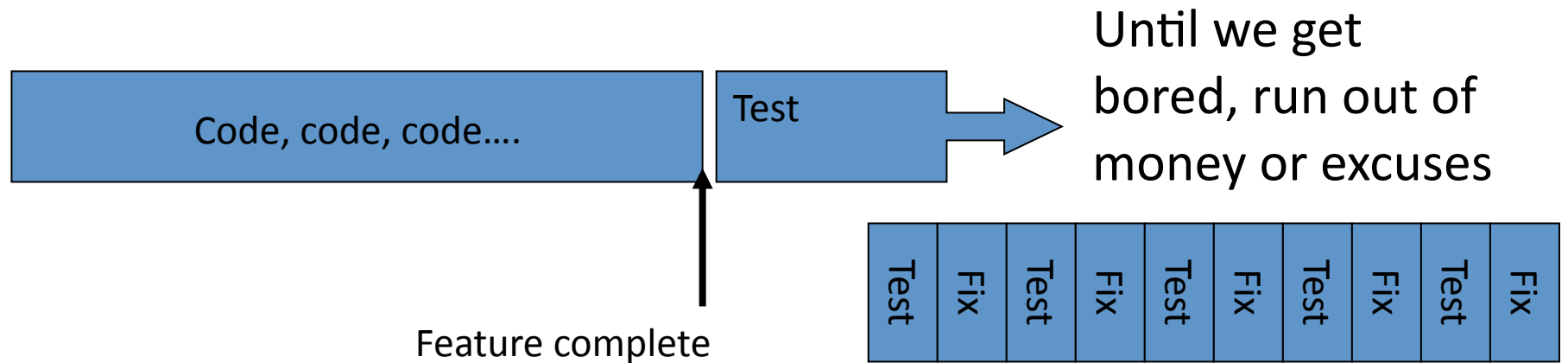
# Quality underpins Agile

- Quality makes all thing possible



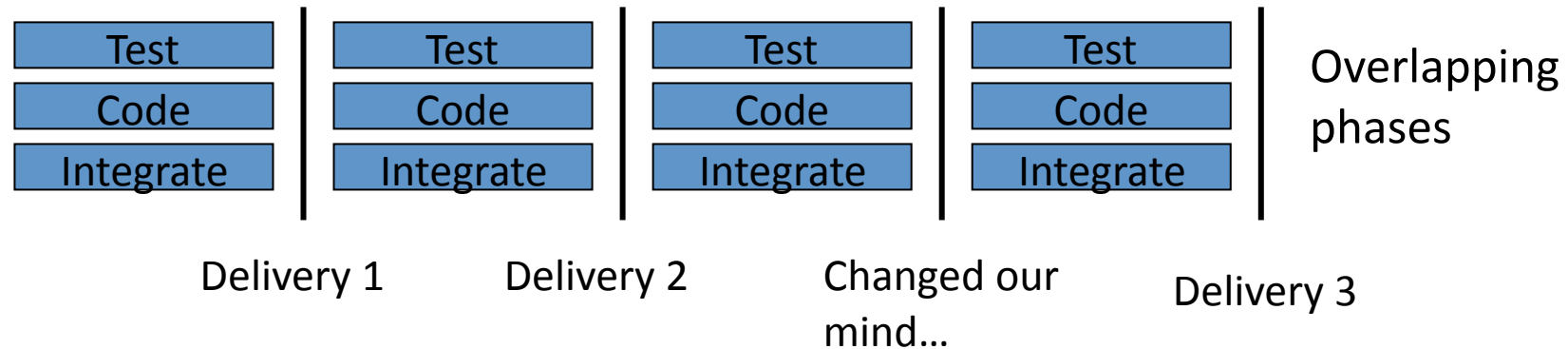
Philip Crosby, 1980

# Traditionally Test at the end



- Depend on test because quality low
- Try inspect quality into the product
- Can't release until we get through test
- More test -> more bugs found

# Quality makes all things possible



- Little and often
  - Deliver anytime
  - Business reaction?
- Requirements can change
- Predictable deliveries

# Ceremonies are the easy bit



- Stand ups, planning, retrospectives
  - Effective ceremonies are more difficult
- Big up front requirements doc if you want
  - Don't get hung up on scope, it changes anyway
- Don't need coaching and training
  - But it's a lot easier and less risky if you do
- Fixed length iterations are FIXED
- Use velocity from previous iterations to determine work in next (don't target)

# As a....

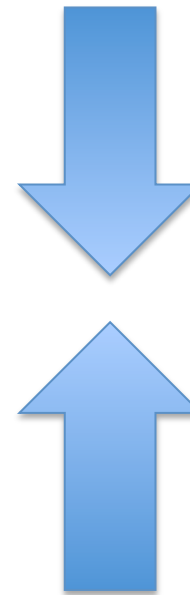
- **Developer:** Just do it
  - Get started on TDD
- As a **Project Manager:** work empirically
  - Use data to forecast: burn down/up charts and statistics
  - Stop projecting end dates until you have data
  - Shorten horizon: the next iteration; ask for working features
  - Encourage & support TDD
  - Involve customers in scope/time decisions





# As a...

- **BA** get closer to your customers
  - Only the next feature is important
  - Specify acceptance criteria
- **Development Manager**
  - Move Heaven & Earth for TDD
  - Get people learning
  - Loosen procedures
  - Pincer movement
    - Stir up interest below
    - Provide support from above



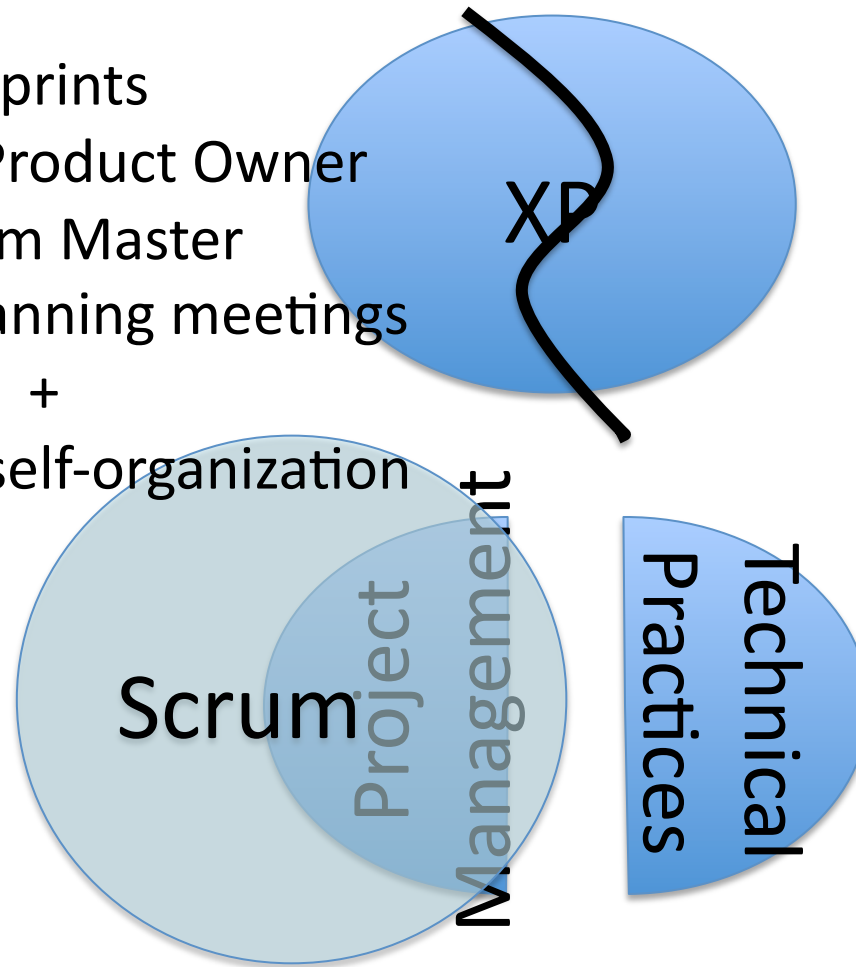
# Whence Agile?



# The history & future of Agile

Pre-Agile period	< 1995	Royce, Spiral model, Evo, Episodes Prototype Scrum, XP, etc.
------------------	--------	---

Iterations -> Sprints  
Customer -> Product Owner  
Coach -> Scrum Master  
Stand-ups, Planning meetings  
+  
Burn downs, self-organization



Successful Scrum  
teams use XP technical  
practices  
*Others hit Scrum-Wall*

Scrum succeeded where XP couldn't  
Credibility: Framework,  
Certifications, Management

Software Craftsmanship  
movement returns  
technical practices to  
focus

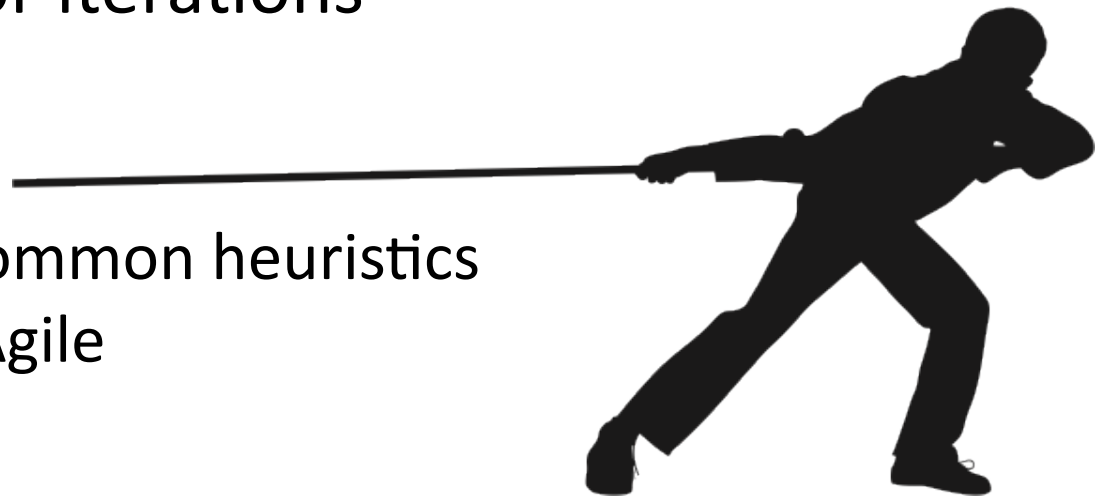
# The Future is Lean

- Agile Software Development is Lean Product Development
- Lean provides tools to help you resolve problems more than ready made solution
  - Useful for deepening and refining practices

# Kanban – new kid on the block

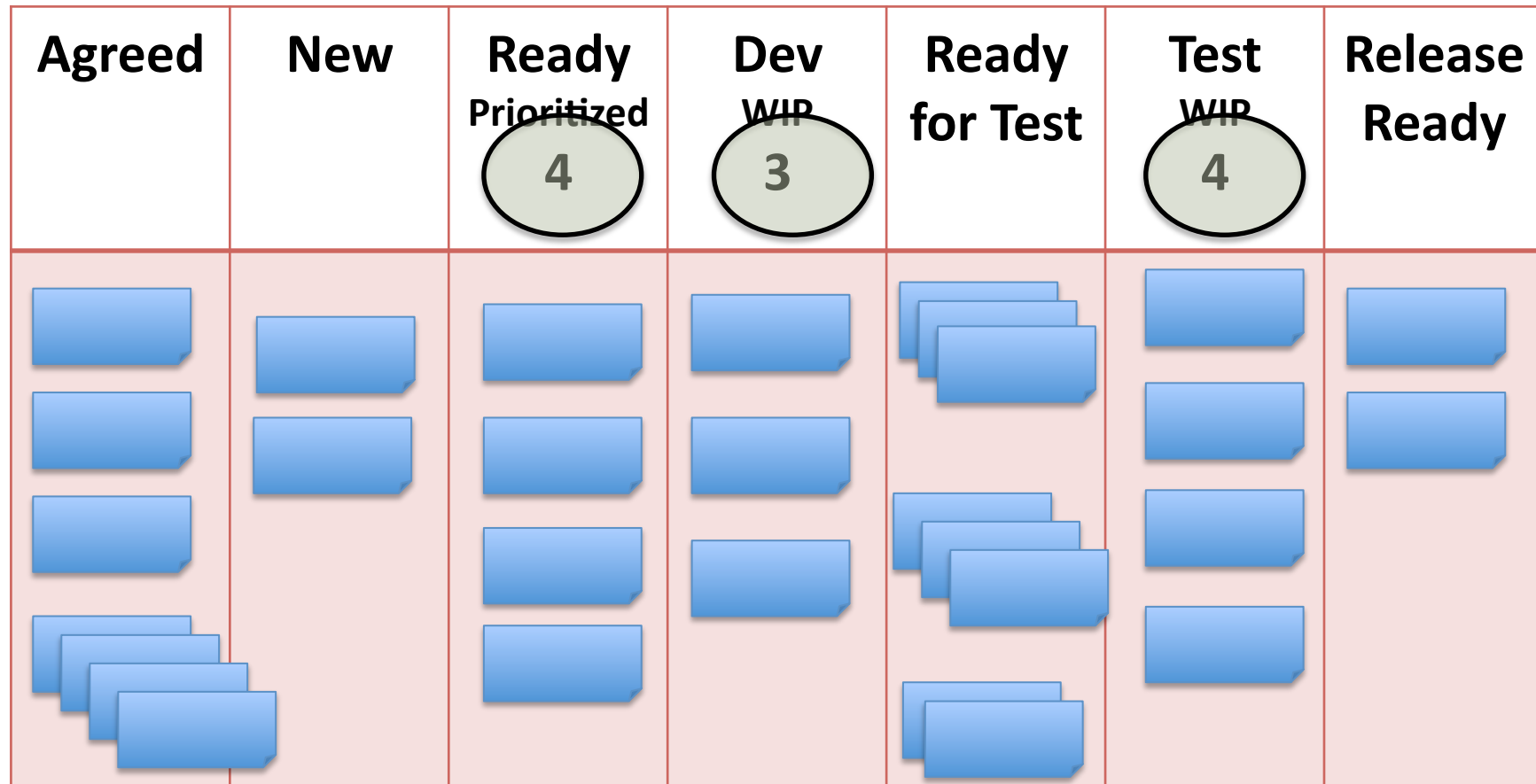
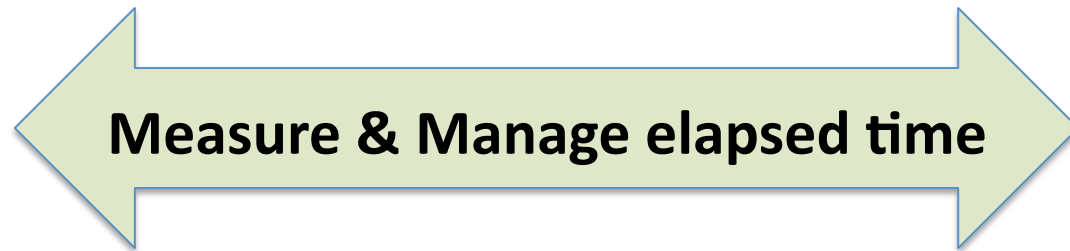
- The Kanban innovation
  - Explicitly limit Work in Progress
  - Break flow down into more stages
- Work is pulled from business
  - MMF - Minimally Marketable Feature
- No estimation or iterations
- Kanban is
  - Post-Agile
  - A collection of common heuristics
  - Dangerously unAgile

From David  
Anderson





# Kanban



Estimation?

Iteration?



“a subtle difference between kanban and typical agile processes such as Scrum. Scrum focuses on being agile which may (and should) lead to improving. Kanban focuses on improving, which may lead to being agile. However, being agile itself is not important - it just happens to be the best way we (or at least I) know at the moment.”

Karl Scotland, Early Kanban adopter,  
December 2008

# Experience with Kanban



- Easier to introduce
- More responsive than Scrum/XP
- Models current process then you change
- Keep management by routine to start with
  - iterations
  - planning
  - work breakdown
  - estimates
- Greater need to emphasis learning & change
  - No safety net of

# Summary

- Agile adoption continues
- Adoptees deepen practices
- Next for Agile
  - End of Scrum hegemony
  - The Future is Lean
  - Rise of Kanban
  - Return of “requirements”
  - Focus on business value



Allan Kelly

[allan@allankelly.net](mailto:allan@allankelly.net)

<http://www.allankelly.net>

<http://blog.allankelly.net>