

Agile Primer

Your Guides: Walter Weber and Joe Knapp

Agenda

- Why Agile?
- What is Agile?
- Agile vs Traditional
- Agile Planning

Why Agile?



Why Agile?

PROJECT SUCCESS RATES AGILE VS WATERFALL



Why Agile?

Harvard Business Review Analytic Services:

Agile software development is "the competitive advantage for a digital age."

The benefits of agile software development are real, especially for companies looking to accelerate time to market and move quickly into the digital economy.

The Promise of Agile Development

According to PwC internal benchmarks, agile software development offers big benefits across multiple areas

DEVELOPMENT GOAL	IMPROVEMENT WITH AGILE
Quality	Defect escape rates decrease
Time to market	Improves 18-20%
Productivity	Improves 14-95%
Cost	Reduces costs by 7-29%
Employee satisfaction	Improves 20-40%



The Agile Manifesto

"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

Working software over comprehensive documentation

Customer collaboration over contract negotiation

Responding to change over following a plan

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

https://agilemanifesto.org/

Agile is a group of development methodologies

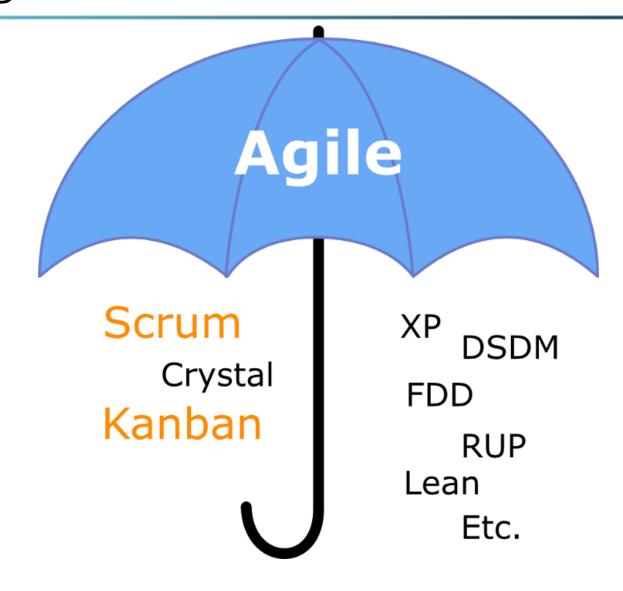
based on iterative and incremental development

where requirements and solutions evolve through collaboration

among self-organizing and cross-functional teams

who focus on delivering customer value as early and as often as possible.

Any product development approach or general philosophy that follows the spirit of the guiding practices and principles in the Agile Manifesto is considered Agile



Agile versus Traditional



The assumptions we make

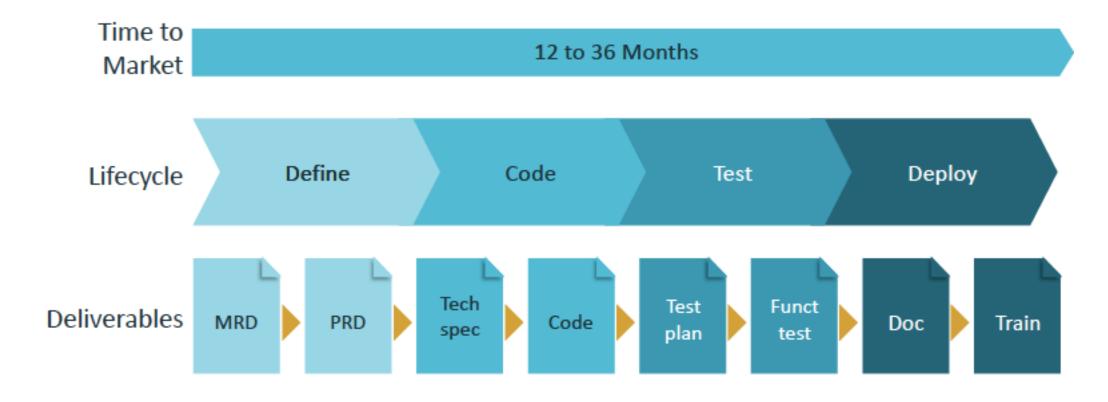
	WATERFALL	AGILE
REQUIREMENTS	With enough time, can figure out well-defined requirements	Customers cannot fully understand or describe requirements up front
CHANGES	Changes will be small, and therefore manageable	Changes will be constant, so deliver in smaller increments
SYSTEM INTEGRATION	Will go smoothly	Integrate from beginning and integrate constantly
INNOVATION	Can be done on a predictable schedule	Cannot be done on a predictable schedule, but can deliver most valuable features earlier to get fast feedback
PROCESSES AND TOOLS	Processes and tools will capture data and metrics providing key information to decision-makers to avoid challenges	Focus more on individuals and interaction rather than processes and tools; can usually do this with post-it notes
AUTHORITY	Command and control structures will ensure everyone stays on track	The teams themselves are self-directed and determine the best way to work
MEASURE OF SUCCESS	Adherence to the original plan is the primary measurement	Working, tested software is the primary measurement

The approaches we take for Resources

	WATERFALL	AGILE
TEAM STRUCTURE	Non-dedicated teams (Have to go through Forming, Storming, Norming, Performing, every single time)	Dedicated teams (Once Performing, always Performing)
PUSH vs PULL	Push approved projects right away to individual resources	Dedicated teams pull the next high priority item
SCOPE	"Get it All Done"	Break down to smaller deliverables and finish highest value ones rapidly ("Stop Starting and Start Finishing")
ESTIMATING	Assumes we estimate and can forecast accurately "Absolute estimating"	Understands that human are horrible at absolute estimating, but very good at relative estimating
FLOW	Starting projects is a measure of success—leading to many projects in-flight	Work in process (WIP) is limited based on throughput
STAFFING	Project managers have to beg/borrow/steal resources	Work comes to the teams that are stable/dedicated
MEASURE OF SUCCESS	Full resource utilization	Velocity and value delivery

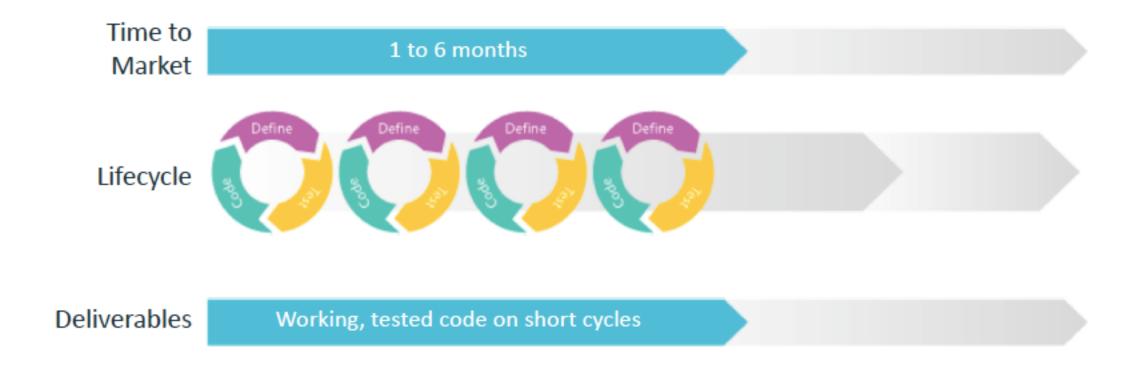
Traditional Development

Long, Large, Linear, Often Late

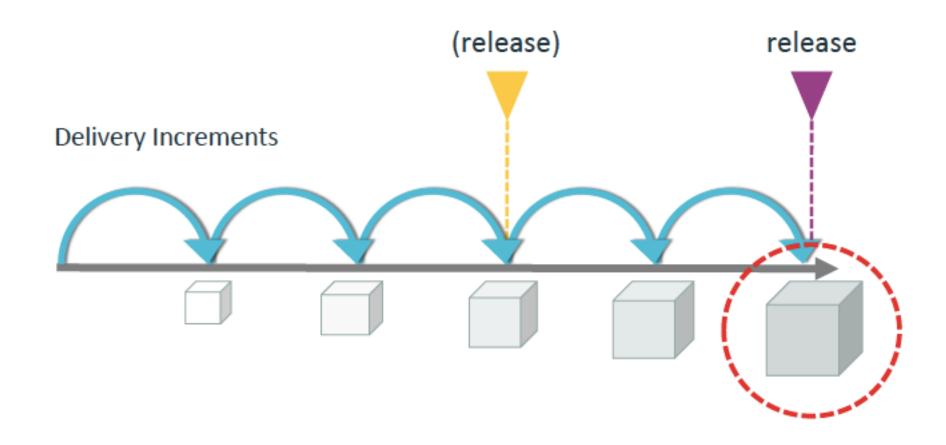


Agile Development

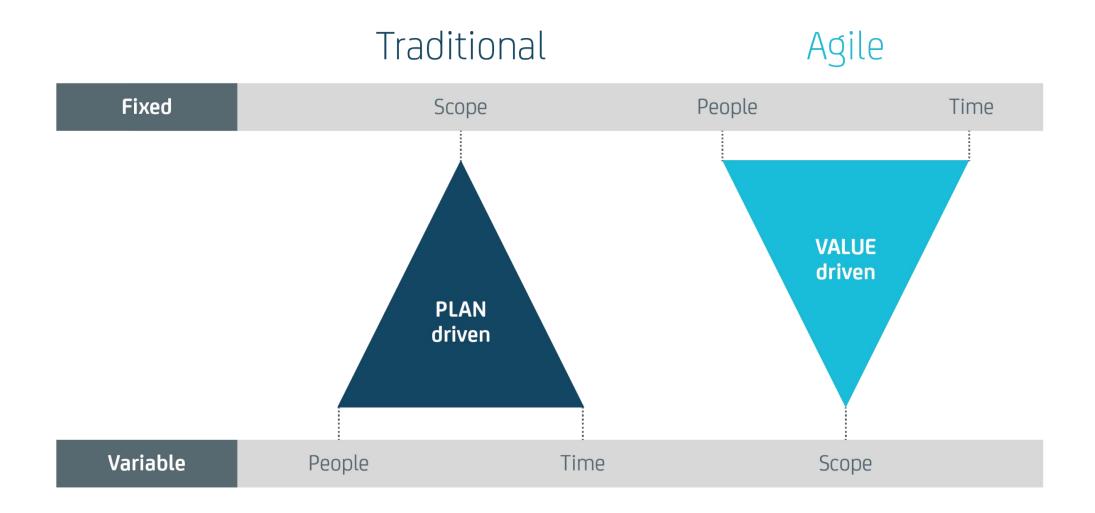
Iterate, Increment and Innovate



Agile Delivery



Agile Paradigm Shift



Agile Planning



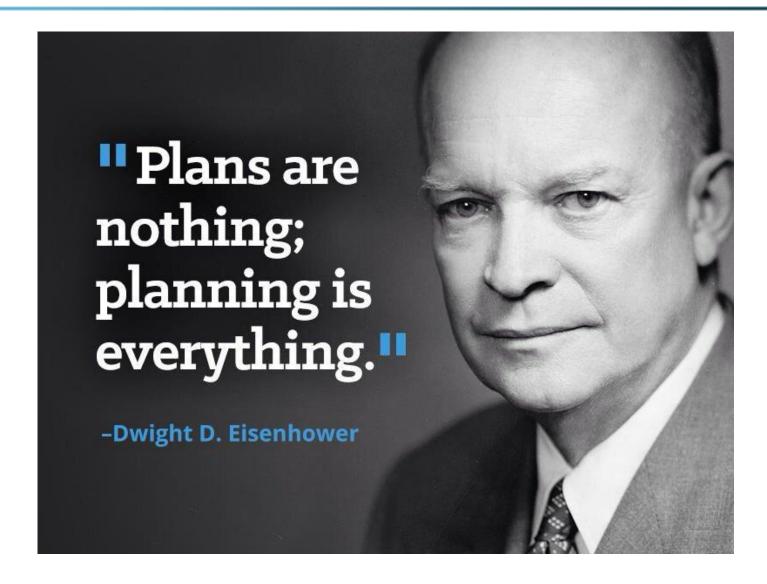
Agile = No more planning?



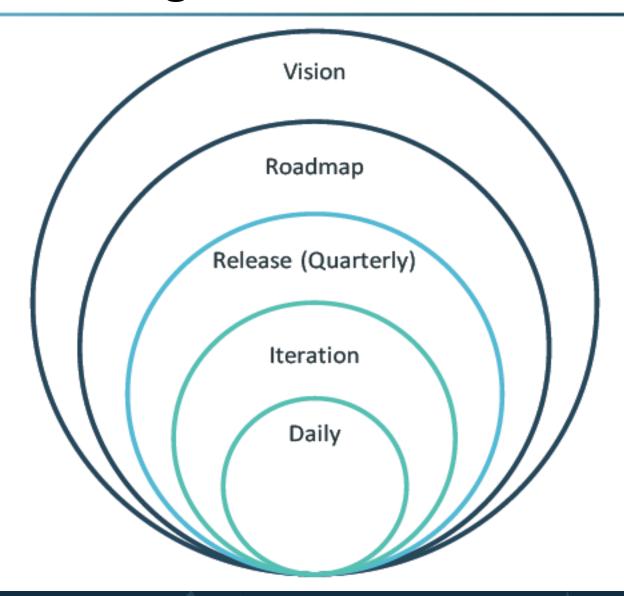




Planning is everything



5 Levels of Planning



Planning

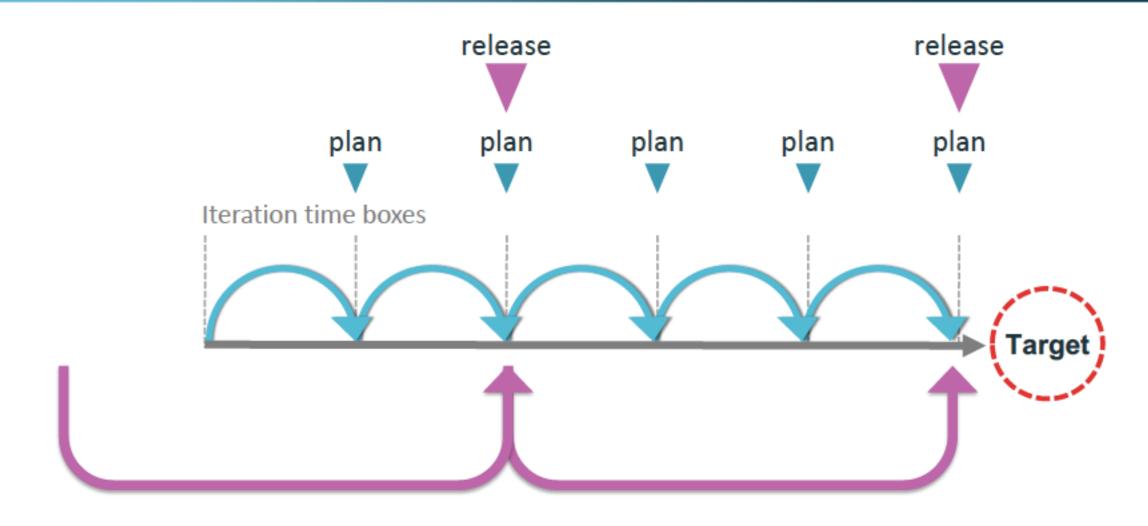
TRADITIONAL	AGILE ITERATION 0
Expert analysis	Whole team
Unknown duration	Time-boxed
Detailed	Just enough
Limit changes	Plan to re-plan

Iteration 0

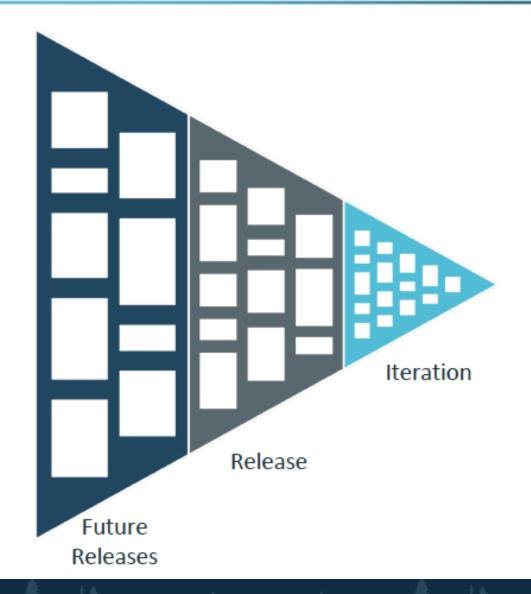
- Create the initial backlog requirements
 - Story writing
 - Estimating
 - Splitting
 - Prioritizing
- Architecture initial
 - Emergent design
 - Spikes

- Planning Determine:
 - Team(s) formation
 - Iteration length
 - Dependencies
 - Risks
 - Scheduling
 - Coordination

Iterative Cadences



Just In Time, Progressive Elaboration of Requirements



- Constantly working to break down feature to prepare for planning
- Break off lower-priority bits
- Re-rank
- Add acceptance criteria
- Never "done", evolves over time

Secret Sauce – Continuous Improvement



Questions?





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