

# CROSSTALK

April 2007 The Journal of Defense Software Engineering Vol. 20 No. 4

## LS2: The Agile Enterprise: Real World Experience in Creating Agile Companies

Leadership Symposium  
Grand Ballroom South

*Jeff Sutherland, Ph.D.*  
*Co-Creator of the Scrum Development Process*  
<http://jeffsutherland.com/scrum>

# AGILE DEVELOPMENT



**Jeff Sutherland** [jeffsutherland.com/scrum](http://jeffsutherland.com/scrum)



■ **Agile Systems Architect since 1986**

- CTO/VP Engineering for 9 software companies
- Prototyped Scrum in 4 companies
- **Conceived and executed first Scrum at Easel Corp. in 1993. Rolled out Scrum in next 5 companies**
- Scrum consultant to leading companies in Europe, North and South America, and Russia.
- Senior Advisor, OpenView Investments, LLC

■ **Signatory of Agile Manifesto and founder of Agile Alliance**



■ **Scrum Certification World Tour**

**Feb 7-8 CSM Aarhus**

**Feb 22-23 CSM Ft Myers**

**Mar 1-2 CSM St. Petersburg**

**March 12-13 CSM QCon London**

**March 22-23 CSM Boston**

**Apr 3-4 CSM Amsterdam**

**Apr 11-12 Scrum Tuning Boulder**

**Apr 18-19 CSM Boston**

**Apr 25-26 CSM Aarhus**

**Apr 28-29 Deep Agile Boston**  
with Ron Jeffries

**May 7-11 Scrum Gathering Portland**

**May 17-18 CSM Boston**

**May 3-Jun 1 CSM Stockholm**

**Jun 6-7 CSM Aarhus**

**Jun 11-12 CSM Copenhagen**

**Jun 13 Oresund Agile Copenhagen**

**Jun 14-15 CSM Saxo Bank Copenhagen**

**Jun 18-19 CSM Oslo**

**Jun 20-21 CSM Stockholm**

**Jun 23-24 Exigen St. Petersburg**

**Jun 26-27 CSM Amsterdam**

**Jul 11-12 CSM Charlotte**

**Jul 16 Nortel Ottawa**

**Jul 25-26 CSM Healthwise Boise**

**Aug 1-2 CSM Silicon Valley**

**Aug 6-9 CSM MySpace**

**Aug 13-17 Agile 2007 Washington, DC**

# Current Clients

## Partial Scrum

Microsoft, Google, Yahoo, Adobe, GE, Oracle, Siemens, BellSouth, Ulticom, Palm, St. Jude Medical, DigiChart, Healthwise, Sony/Ericsson, Accenture, GuideWorks, Exigen Services/Starsoft Labs, SirsiDynix, Softhouse, Philips, Barclays Global Investors, Constant Contact, Wellogic, Inova Solutions, Medco, MySpace, Johns Hopkins, Wachovia, IBS Interprit, OpenView Venture Partners

## Company Wide Scrum

PatientKeeper, Solutions IQ, Trifork, Systematic Software Engineering, Saxo Bank, Xebia, Inova Solutions

# Some Characteristics of Real World Agile Companies

- Agile is strategic imperative
- Scrum and XP is institutionalized
- Teams pass the Nokia test for Scrum
- Senior management and developers are totally involved
- Scrum is used outside of development
- Companies have dramatic growth in size and revenue. Products are best of breed and projects are best in class.
- Product companies move into GartnerGroup magic quadrant.

# Getting there: Xerox Parc innovations



Personal Workstation



Mouse



Ethernet



Windows Interface



Laser Printer

```
Class new title 'Window';
field: 'name';
+follows?
This is a superclass for presenting windows on the display. It
holds control over the display to depressed outside. While it
holds control, it distributes messages to user based on user
actions.
+including
+setup
[State contains: myha ==
+nil name
+reply
[State contains: myha ==
[keyboard active == [ nil keyboard ]
myha down == [ nil keyboard ]
self outside == []
myha down == [ nil keyboard ]
] nil
]
+Default Event Responses
+name [ nil show ]
+name
+outside [ hide ]
+position
+keyboard [ keyboard:font:font:font ]
+image
+show
[State offset: 2
+idleness pos: nil title at: frame origin + title loc.
+idleness: complement
]
...
etc.
```

Smalltalk

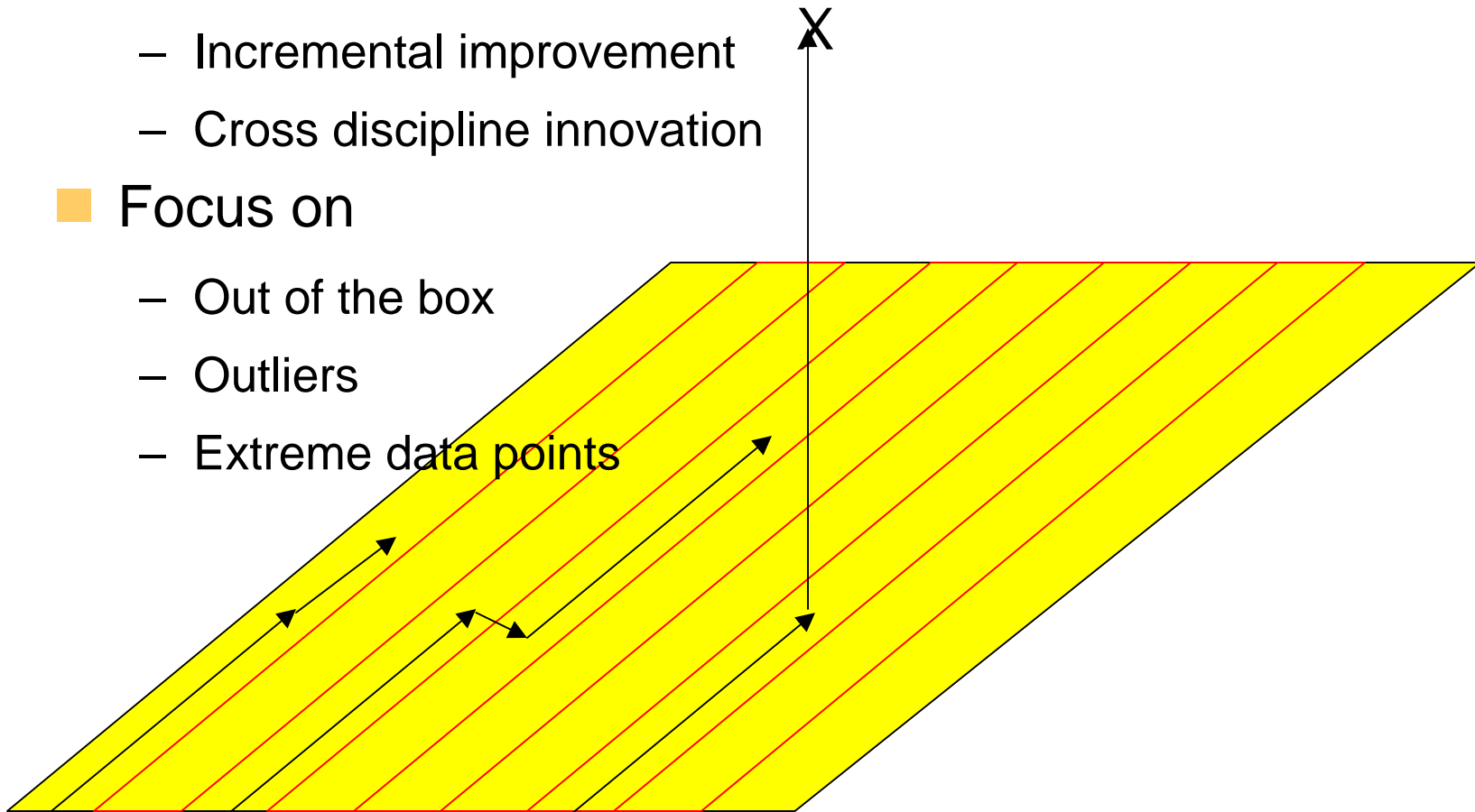
# Alan Kay's Strategy

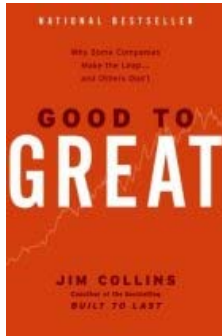
## ■ Forget about

- Incremental improvement
- Cross discipline innovation

## ■ Focus on

- Out of the box
- Outliers
- Extreme data points

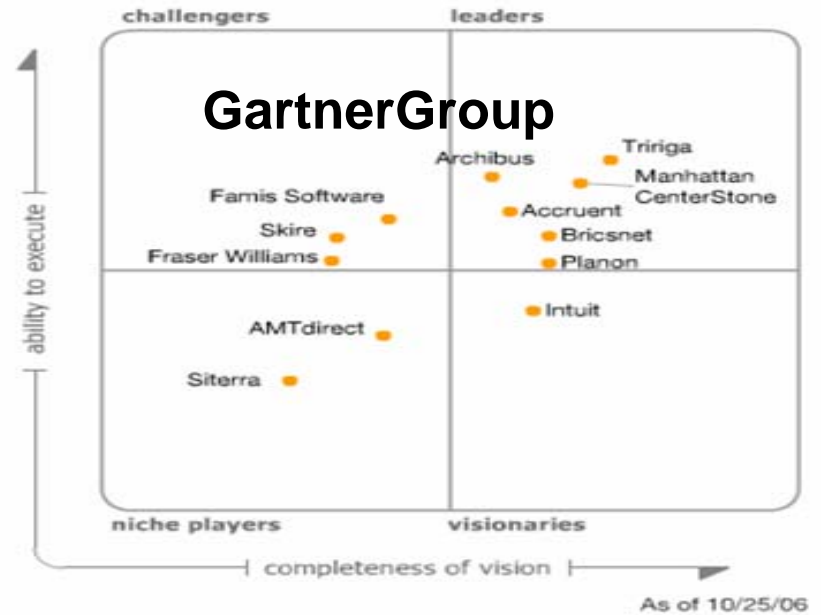




# Out of the Box

- Scrum looked at projects that were off the plate
  - IBM surgical team
  - Borland Quattro Project
  - Takeuchi and Nonaka new product development strategies
- *Scrum: A Pattern Language for Hyperproductive Software Development*
  - By M. Beedle, M. Devos, Y. Sharon, K. Schwaber, and J. Sutherland. In Pattern Languages of Program Design. vol. 4, N. Harrison, Ed. Boston: Addison-Wesley, 1999, pp. 637-651.
- First Scrum was a hyperproductive Scrum. Management and sales asked the team to slow down.
- Latest Scrum is a hyperproductive revenue generating Scrum. The Board asked the company to slow down revenue recognition.

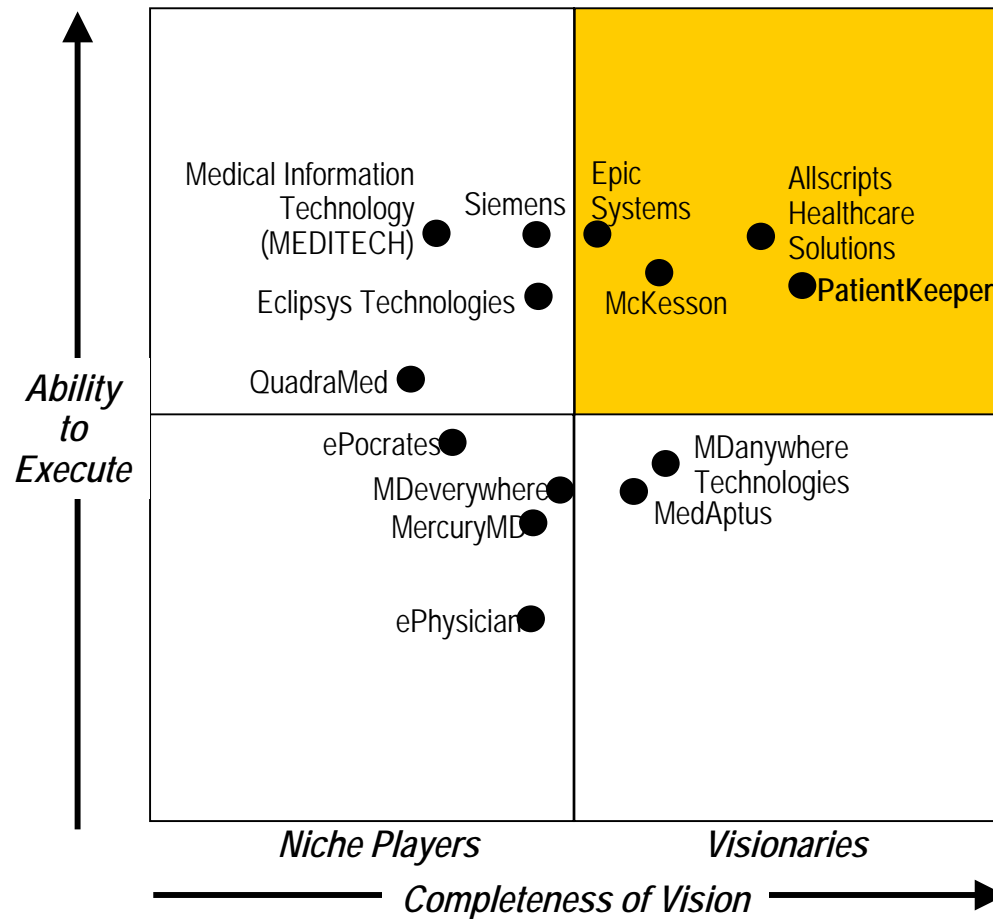
# Planon Type B Scrum



- Great means you are the industry leader in your market and revenue is skyrocketing
- Anyone can aspire to be great!
- That aspiration will make you and your company better



# PatientKeeper Type C Scrum



- First Scrum hyperproduced software but not revenue
- Achieved hyperproductive revenue state in July 2007
- All-at-Once Type C Scrum designed for hyperproductive software *AND* revenue

I find that the vast majority of organizations are still trying to do too much stuff, and thus find themselves thrashing. The only organization I know of which has really solved this is Patient Keeper. *Mary Poppendieck, 2007*

# Are you doing Scrum?

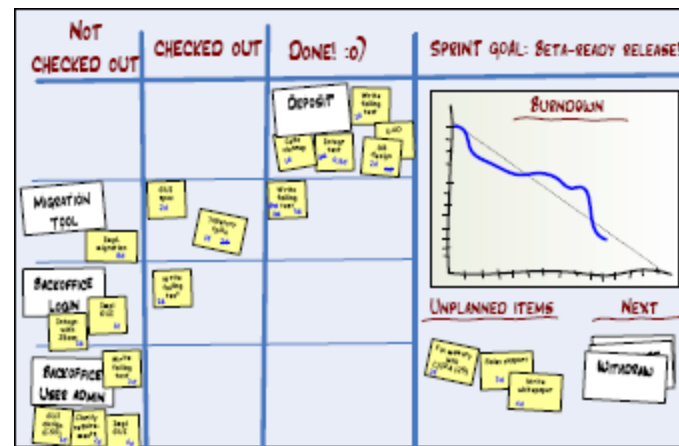
## *The Nokia Test by Bas Vodde*



- First, you must be doing iterative development
  - Iterations must be timeboxed to less than six weeks
  - Software must be tested and working at the end of an iteration
  - Iteration must start before specification is complete
- Then you must meet the Nokia Scrum test
- 1969 - Earliest published reference to Iterative Incremental development
  - Robert Glass. Elementary Level Discussion of Compiler/Interpreter Writing. ACM Computing Surveys, Mar 1969
  - See Larman, Craig and Basili, Vic. Iterative and Incremental Development: A Brief History. IEEE Computer, [June 2003 \(Vol. 36, No. 6\)](#) pp. 47-56

# For those doing Scrum

- You know who the product owner is
- There is a product backlog prioritized by business value
- The product backlog is has estimates created by the team
- The team generates burndown charts and knows their velocity
- There are no project managers (or anyone else) disrupting the work of the team



Kniberg, Henrik. *Scrum and XP from the Trenches: How We Do Scrum. Version 2.1, Crisp, 5 Apr 2007.*

# OpenView Venture Partners

- Invest only in Agile companies
- Scrum and XP are Oracle and SQL Server of Agile processes. Portfolio companies must use them.
- Portfolio companies must pass the Nokia test
  - One product owner, one product backlog, estimated by developers
  - Fixed iterations with software done (working and tested)
  - Teams have burndown charts and know their velocity
  - No external disruption of teams during Sprint

# Experiences with people doing Scrum

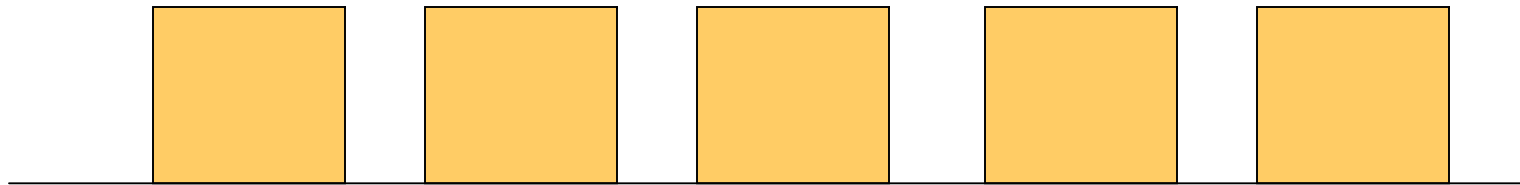
## Hyperproductive Scrum Teams

- It is easy to double productivity with Scrum by implementing only high business value features.
- To quadruple productivity (Toyota effect) requires surfacing impediments and removing them (inspecting and adapting).
- Scrum was designed for 5-10 times productivity improvement. This has been experienced in three types of teams:
  - *The first Scrum team and similar colocated teams.*
  - *The first distributed Scrum team.*
  - *Large distributed/outsourced projects.*
- Understanding hyperproductive Scrum teams can help improve your software development with Scrum.

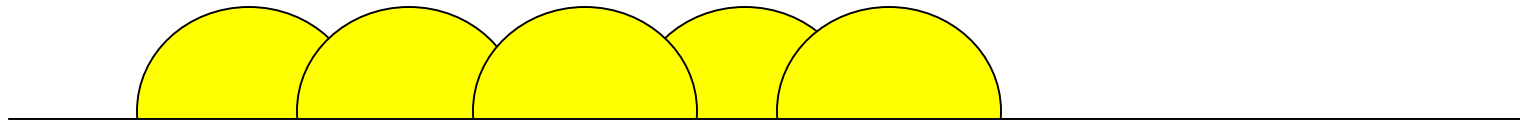
# Hyperproductivity in Distributed Scrum

- IDX (now GE Healthcare) – 567 developers, many locations
- IDX Web Team Scrum 1996-2000
  - Burlington, VT
  - Boston
  - Seattle
- Factors accelerating the IDX hyperproductive Distributed Scrum
  - Scrum organizational pattern
  - Engineering practices
  - Daily meeting of distributed team
  - Tools (direct connection to Microsoft development)

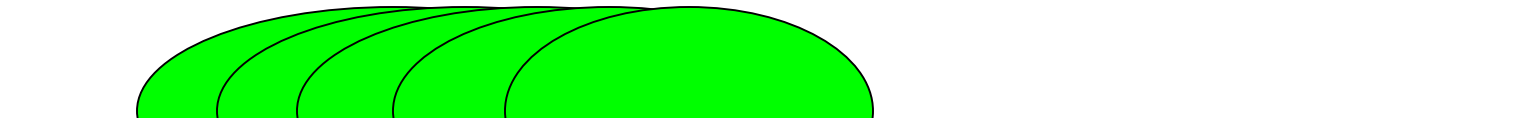
# Distributed Scrum Styles



**Isolated Scrums**



**Distributed Scrum of Scrums**



**Totally Integrated Scrums**

# Outsourcing

- Outsource \$2M development
- Outsourcing costs - \$1.6M
  - Industry data show 20% cost savings on average
- Introduce Scrum locally
  - 240% improvement at IDX, for example
- Local Scrum costs – \$0.83M
- SirsiDynix radically reduced outsource costs making outsourcing reasonable for:
  - Gaining expertise that is unavailable locally
  - Expanding and contracting development staff without layoffs





## Jack Blount CTO SirsiDynix

- 30 years in the computer software industry
- Began as a software engineer in Raleigh, NC for IBM
- SVP Engineering at Novell in the 80s
- CTO at TeleComputing, MobileWare, JD Edwards
- COO at Borland, Raindance
- CEO at USDA, Picus, MobileWare, Dynix, AlphaBay

## Nick Puntikov VP Exigen Services (formerly CEO, StarSoft)

- USSR Academy of Sciences
- XP Advocate

## Decision Criteria to Outsource

- Fixed R&D budget based on declining sales of old product
- Limited Java expertise available locally
- Critical time to market to achieve \$30 million growth in sales based on stalled market and sales pipeline for new product
- Dramatically improved performance, security and scalability required by market

# Outsourcing Selection Process

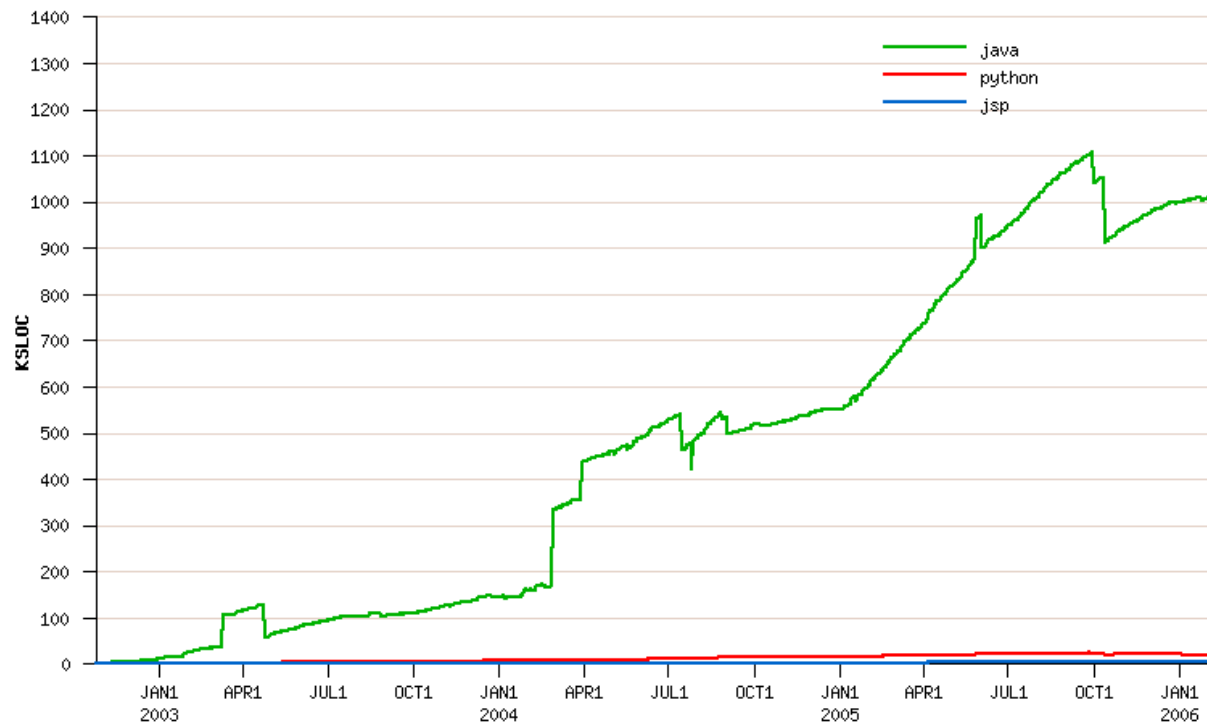
- Contacted multiple firms for phone interviews
  - 18 in India
  - 7 in China
  - 9 in Russia
- Scheduled on-site interviews
  - 6 firms in India
  - 4 firms in China
  - 5 firms in Russia
- Jack Blount personally flew to all three countries and held the interviews from both a technical and business perspective

# Risk Associated with Outsourcing

- Unable to staff project on time
- Unable to keep staff on the project once it starts
  - India and China have about 35% annual staff rotation
  - This is generally viewed as the largest exposure and always results in delayed projects
- Poor communications
  - Remote development always has communications challenges
  - Different time zones of US and outsource countries
  - Lack of formal processes
  - Language barriers

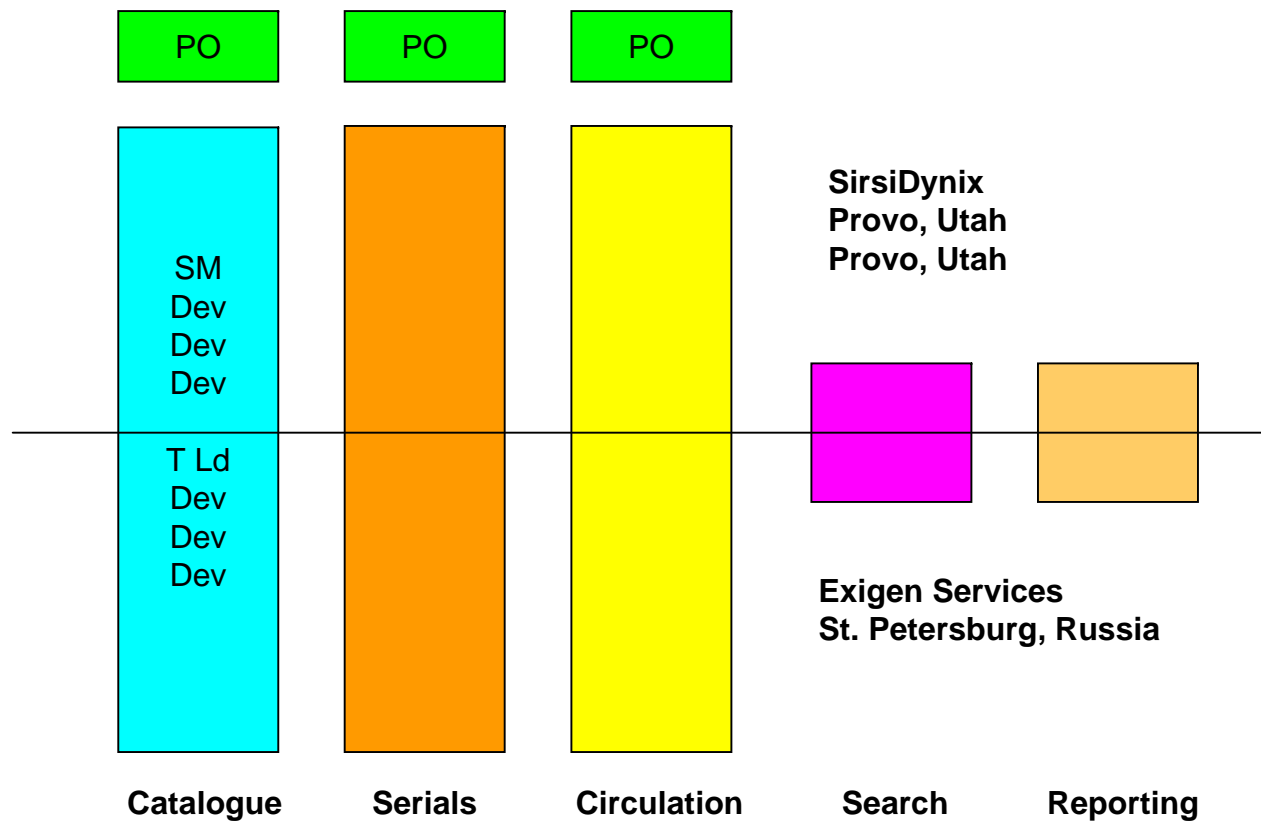
# SirsiDynix Distributed Scrum

- Over a million lines of Java code



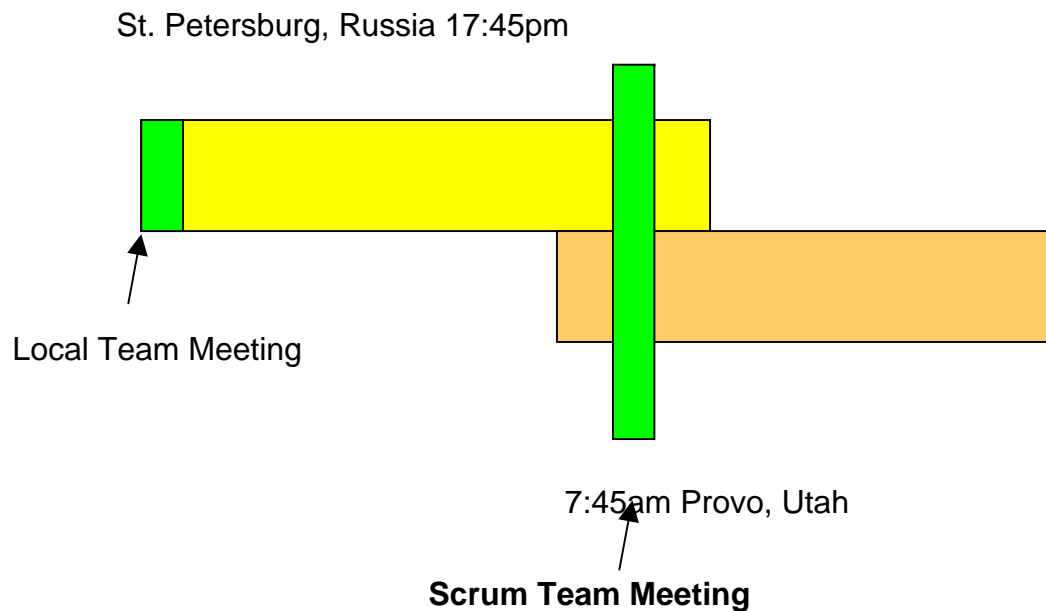
# SirsiDynix Distributed Scrum

- 56 developers distributed across sites



# SirsiDynix Distributed Scrum

- Scrum daily meetings



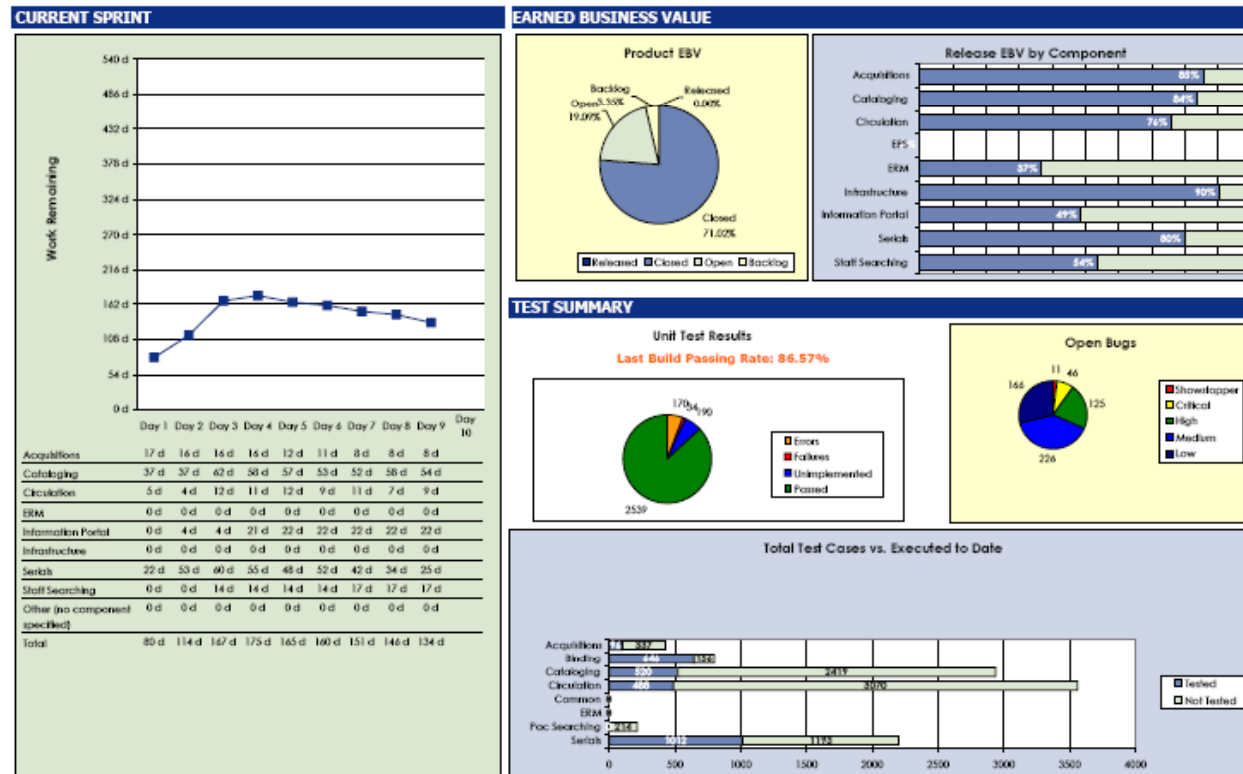
# SirsiDynix Distributed Scrum

## Common tools



Horizon 8.0

Report Ending: Monday, 17 Oct 2005





# SirsiDynix Distributed Scrum

## ■ Uncommon performance

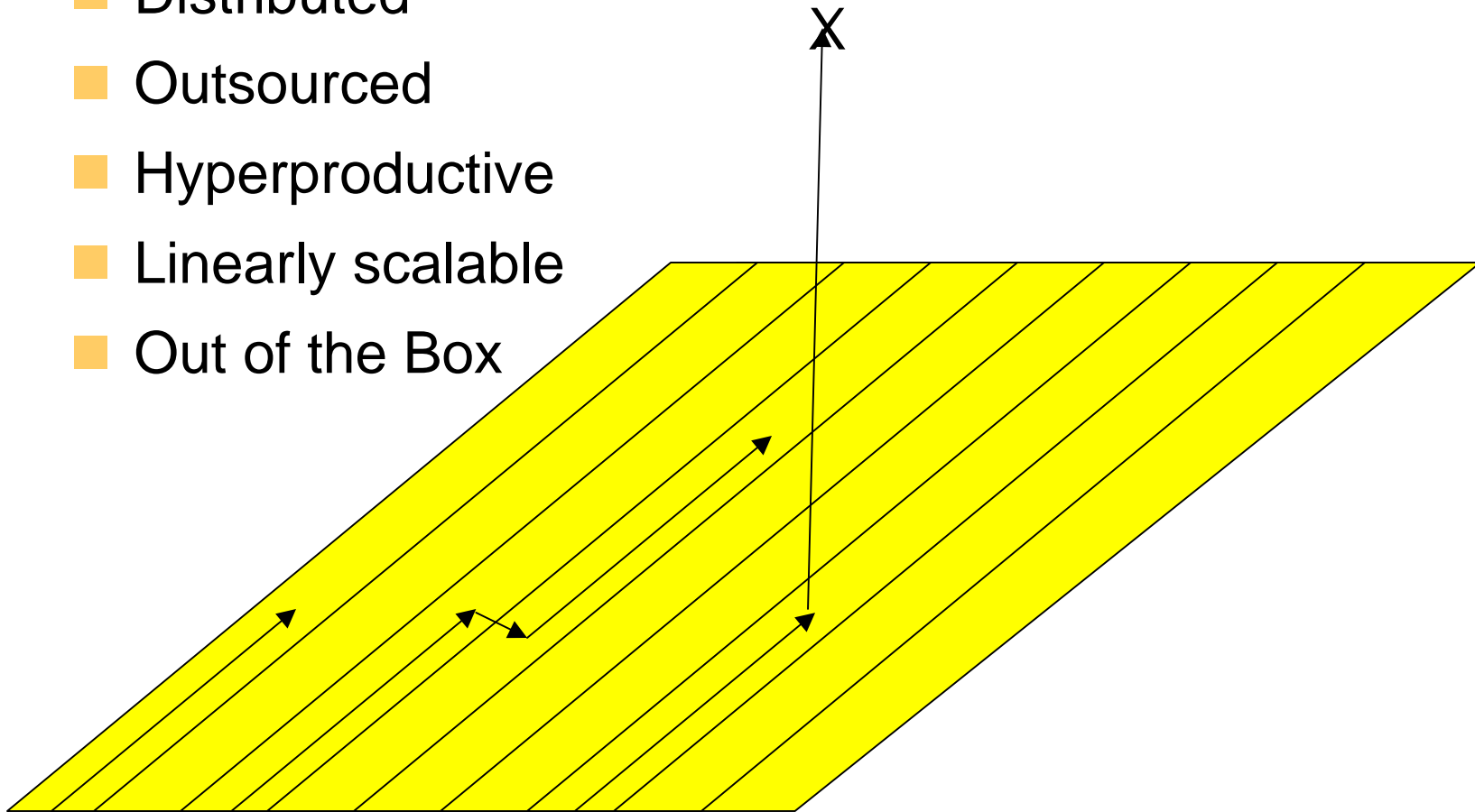
	<b>Colocated Scrum*</b>	<b>Waterfall*</b>	<b>SirsiDynix Distributed Scrum**</b>
<b>Person Months</b>	54	540	827
<b>Lines of Java</b>	51,000	58000	671,688
<b>Function Points</b>	959	900	12673
<b>FP per dev/month</b>	17.8	2.0	15.3

\*M. Cohn, User Stories Applied for Agile Development. Addison-Wesley, 2004

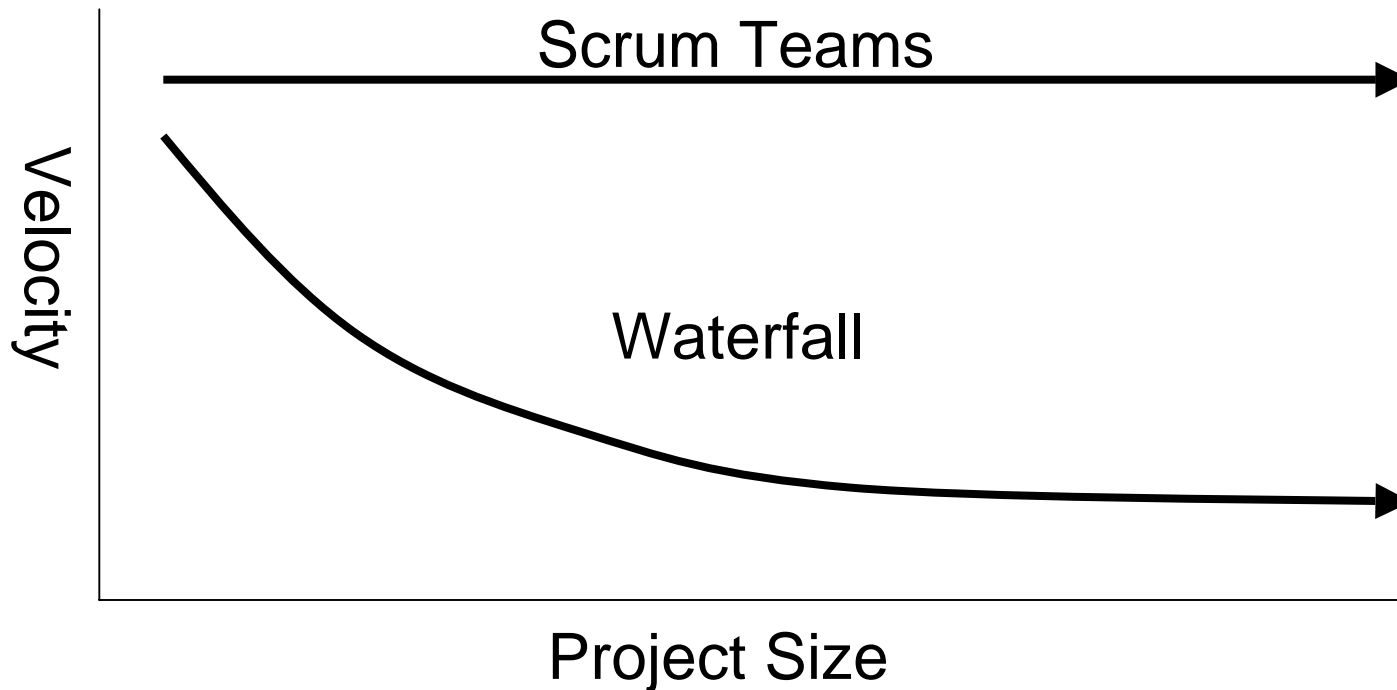
\*\*J. Sutherland, A. Viktorov, J. Blount, and N. Puntikov, "Distributed Scrum: Agile Project Management with Outsourced Development Teams," in HICSS'40, Hawaii International Conference on Software Systems, Big Island, Hawaii, 2007.

# SirsiDynix was off the charts

- Distributed
- Outsourced
- Hyperproductive
- Linearly scalable
- Out of the Box

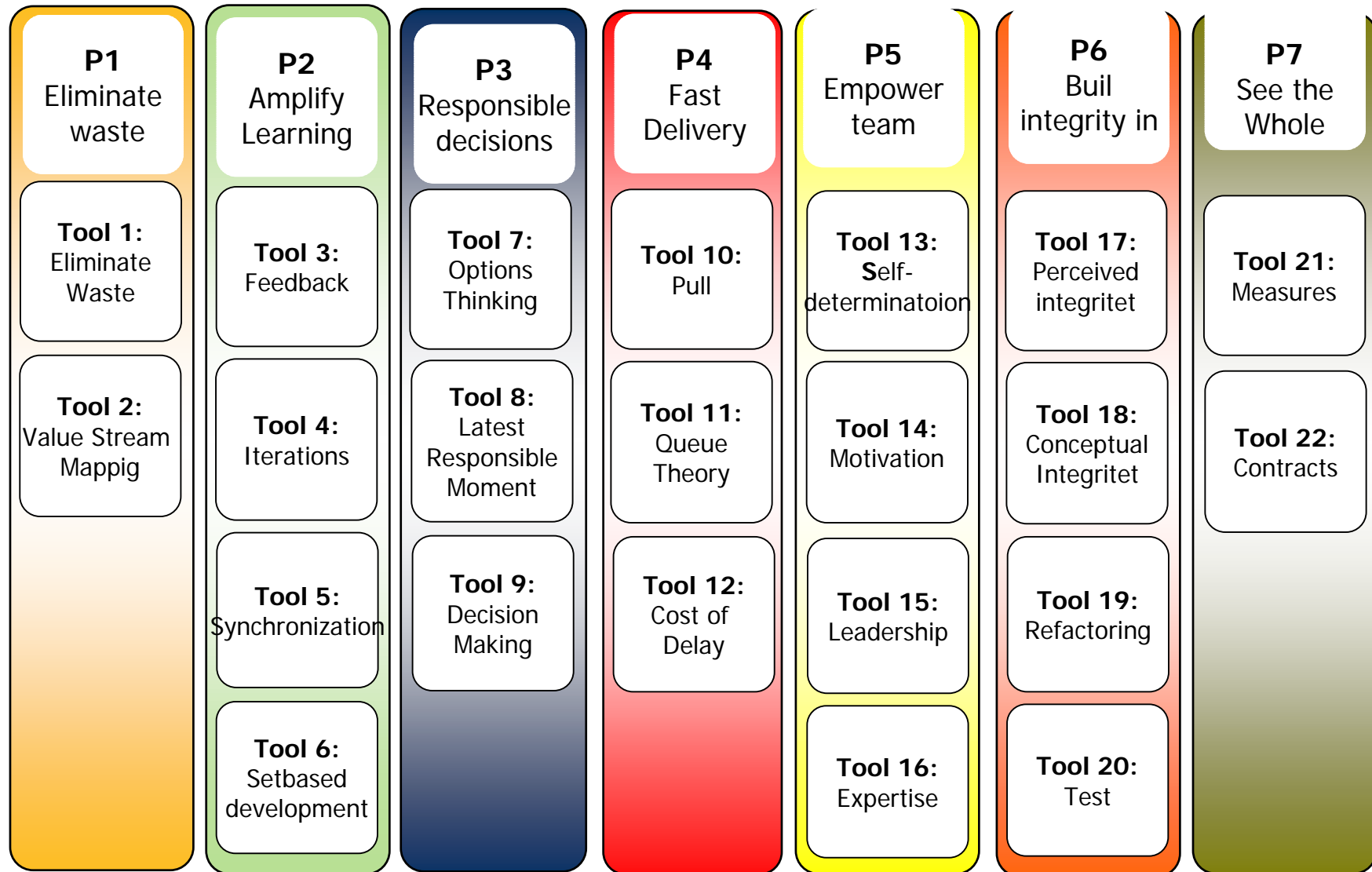


# First Demonstration of Linear Scalability

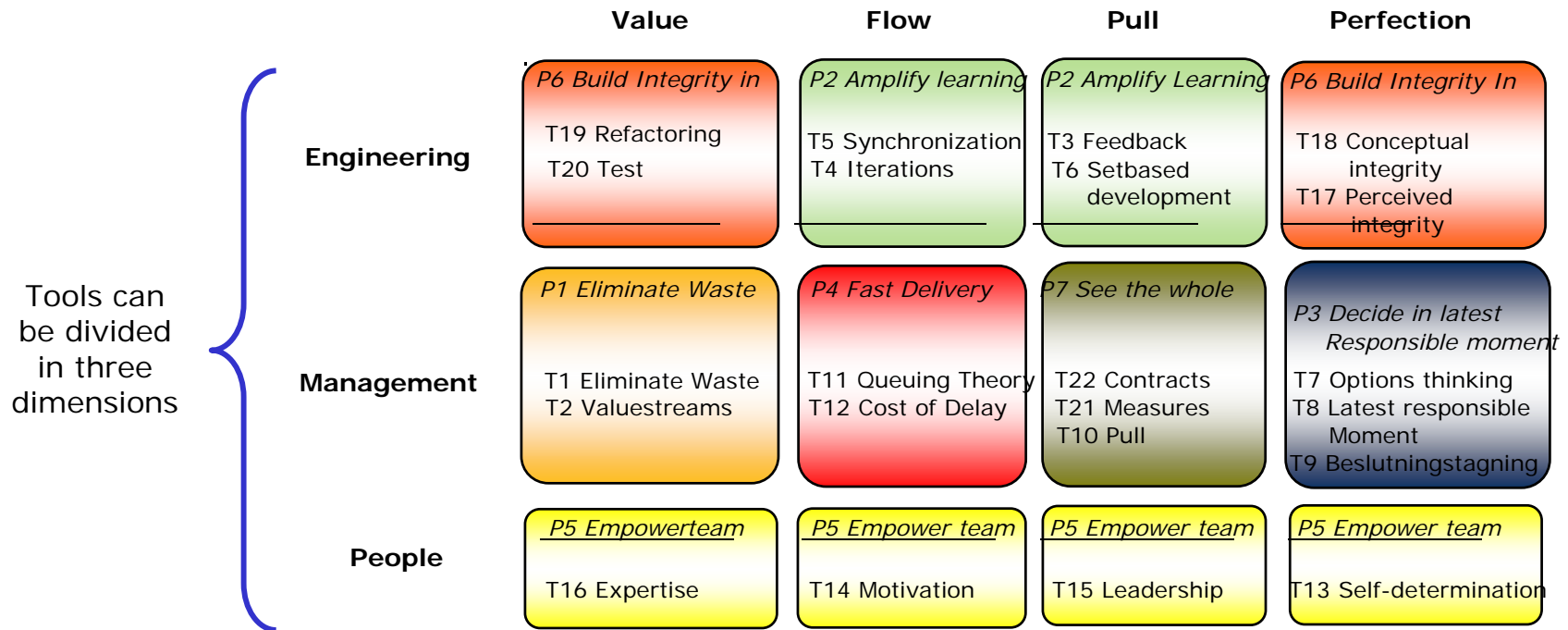


- J. Sutherland, A. Viktorov, J. Blount, and N. Puntikov, "Distributed Scrum: Agile Project Management with Outsourced Development Teams," in HICSS'40, Hawaii International Conference on Software Systems, Big Island, Hawaii, 2007.
- J. Sutherland, C. Jacobson, and K. Johnson, "Scrum and CMMI Level 5: A Magic Potion for Code Warriors!," in Agile 2007, Washington, D.C., 2007.

# Poppendieck Lean Thinking Tools



# Systematic's new model for Lean SW development



These are thinking tools – Projects and employees knows best how to transform them

# Systematic Pilot Projects

- Selected projects were asked to volunteer for Agile development.
- Project staff were trained in the Lean mindset.
- The result was selection of Scrum and a focus on early testing based on story-based development.

# Systematic Pilot – Small Project

- First pilot was initiated on a request for proposal
  - The project had a teamsize of 4 and concerned software for a customer in Danish Government.
- Key reasons for Systematic award:
  - commitment to deliver working code bi-weekly
  - providing a very transparent process to the customer.

# Small Project Success Factors

- Delivery plan and customer involvement resulted in early detection of technology issues.
  - Had a traditional approach been used these issues would have been identified much later with negative impacts on cost and schedule performance.
- Productivity of small project was at the expected level for small projects.
- Another small project with a team size of 5 working for a Defense customer using Scrum showed a similar productivity and the same indicators of high quality and customer satisfaction.



# Pilot of Larger Project

- Team of 10 worked on a military messaging system.
  - They invented a new story based approach to early testing in software development.
  - The name “Story based” development was inspired from XP, but the approach included new aspects like: short incremental contributions, inspections and was feature driven.
- The idea of story-based development was to subdivide features of work, typically estimated to hundreds of hours of work into smaller stories of 20-40 hours of work.
  - The implementation of a story followed a new procedure, where the first activity would be to decide how the story could be tested before any code was written.
  - This test could then be used as the exit criteria for implementation of the story.

# New Approach to Testing Reduced Defects by 38%

- The combination of a good definition of when a story was complete, and early incremental testing of the features, provided a precise overview of status and progress for both team and other stakeholders.
- Developing a series of small stories rather than parts of a big feature creates a better focus on completing a feature until it fulfills all the criteria for being “done”.
- This project finished early, and reduced the number of coding defects in final test by 38% compared to previous processes.

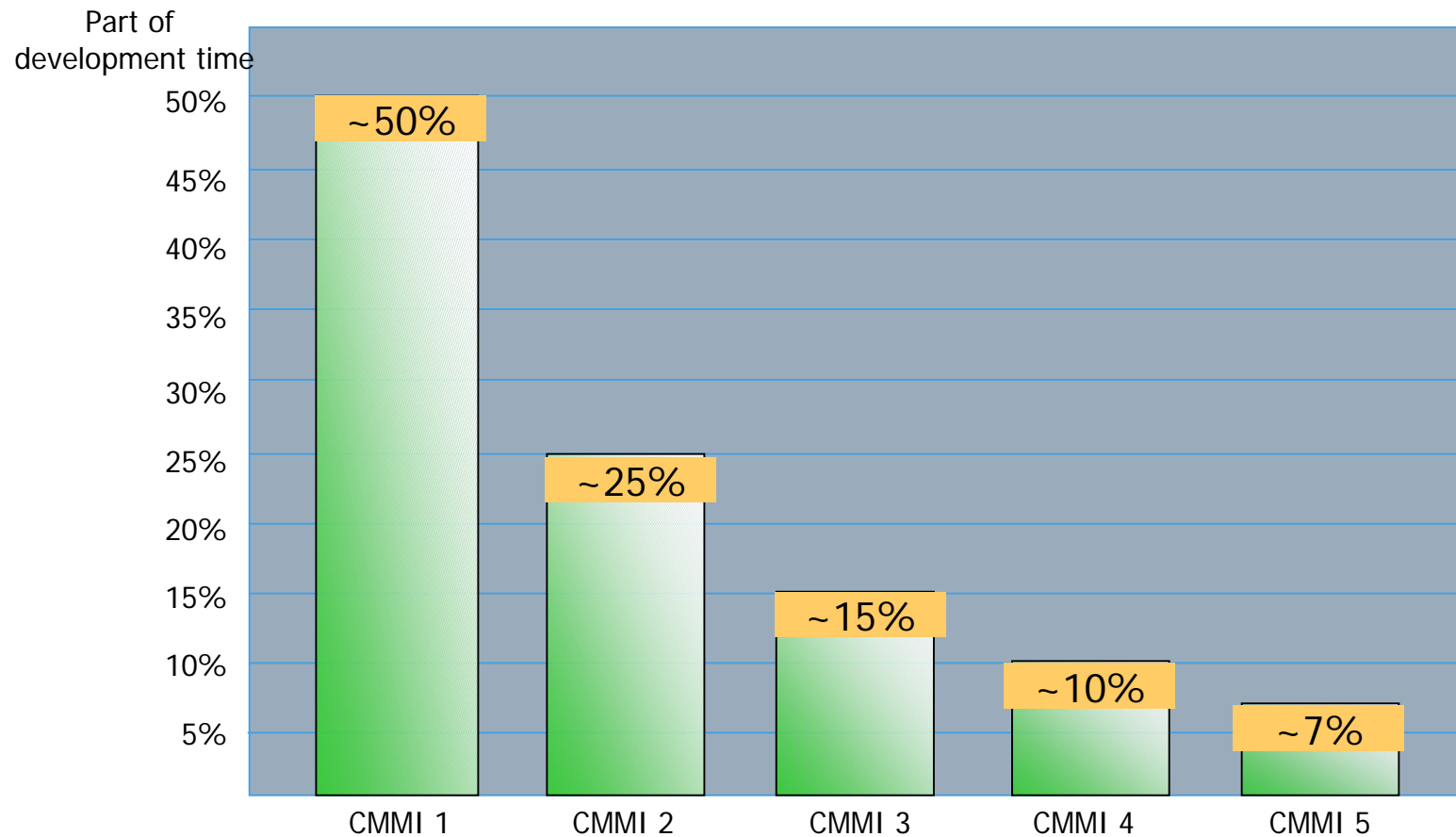
# Another Larger Project

- Team of 19 working on a module to a electronic patient record system, also worked with early testing.
- For each week the project defined a goal to be achieved. The project ensured that test and domain specialists were co-located with the developers.
- The number of coding defects in final test were reduced by 42% compared to previous processes.

# Systematic adoption of Scrum in at CMMI Level 5

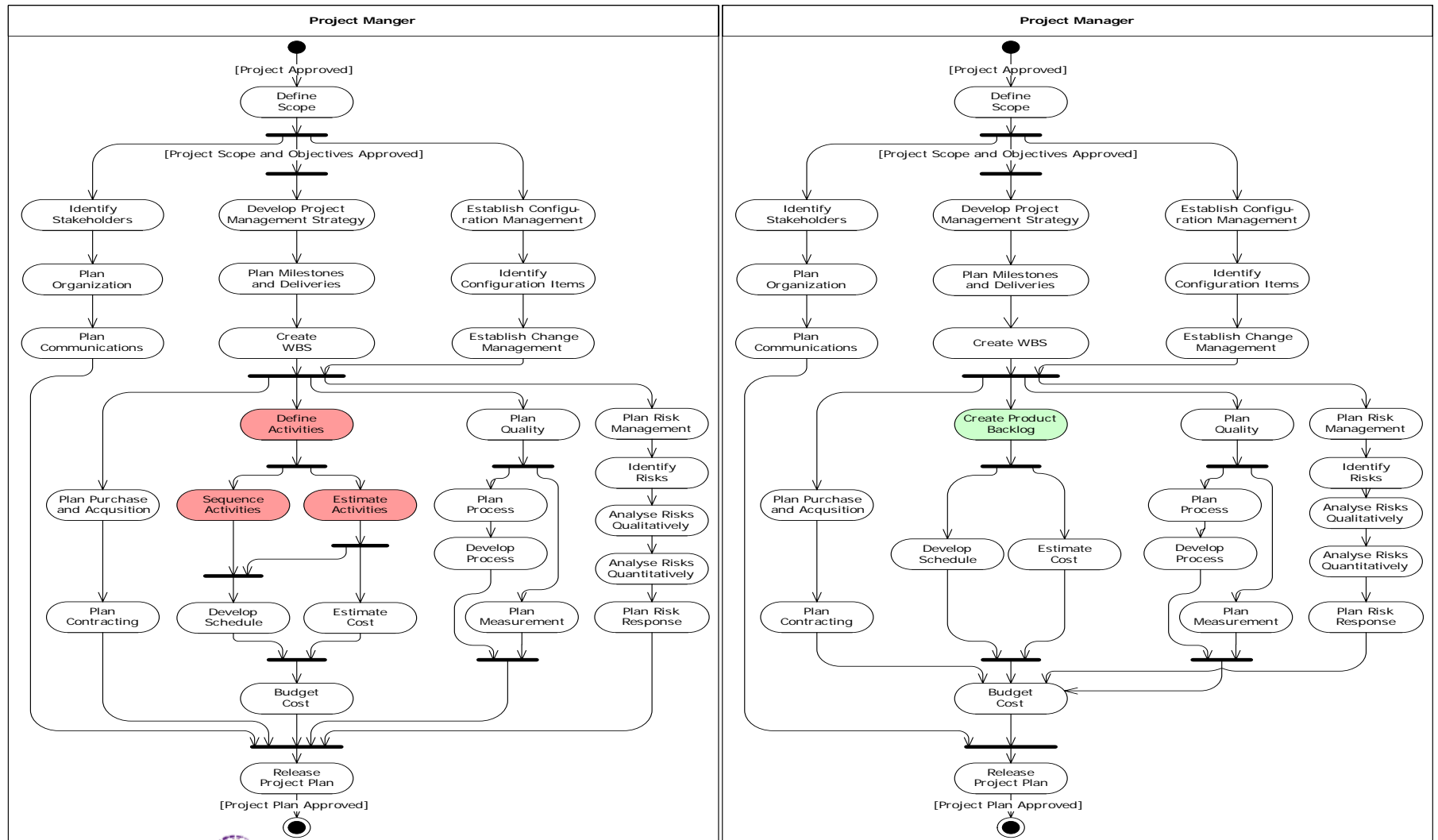
- Process Action Teams (PATs) were formed to integrate the experience and knowledge gained from the pilots, into the processes shared by all projects in the organization.
- The largest change to project planning is that features and work are planned in *sufficient detail* as opposed to a complete initial detailed analysis.
  - Result is a Scrum Product Backlog with a complete prioritized list of features/work for the project.
  - All features have a qualified estimate, established with a documented process and through the use of historical data, but the granularity of the features increase as the priority falls.
  - The uncertainty that remains is handled through risk management activities.
- This approach radically reduces the cost of planning.

# Published experiences with "rework"



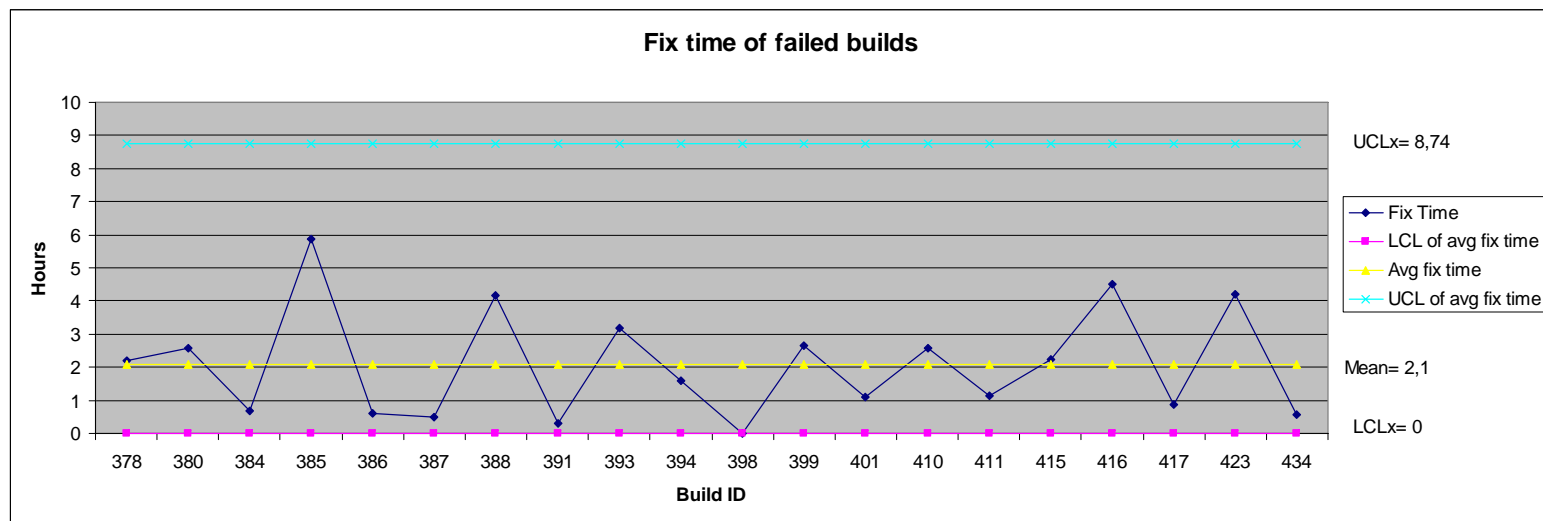
Source: Krasner & Houston, CrossTalk, Nov 1998  
Diaz & King, CrossTalk, Mar 2002

# SCRUM and PDP-Common

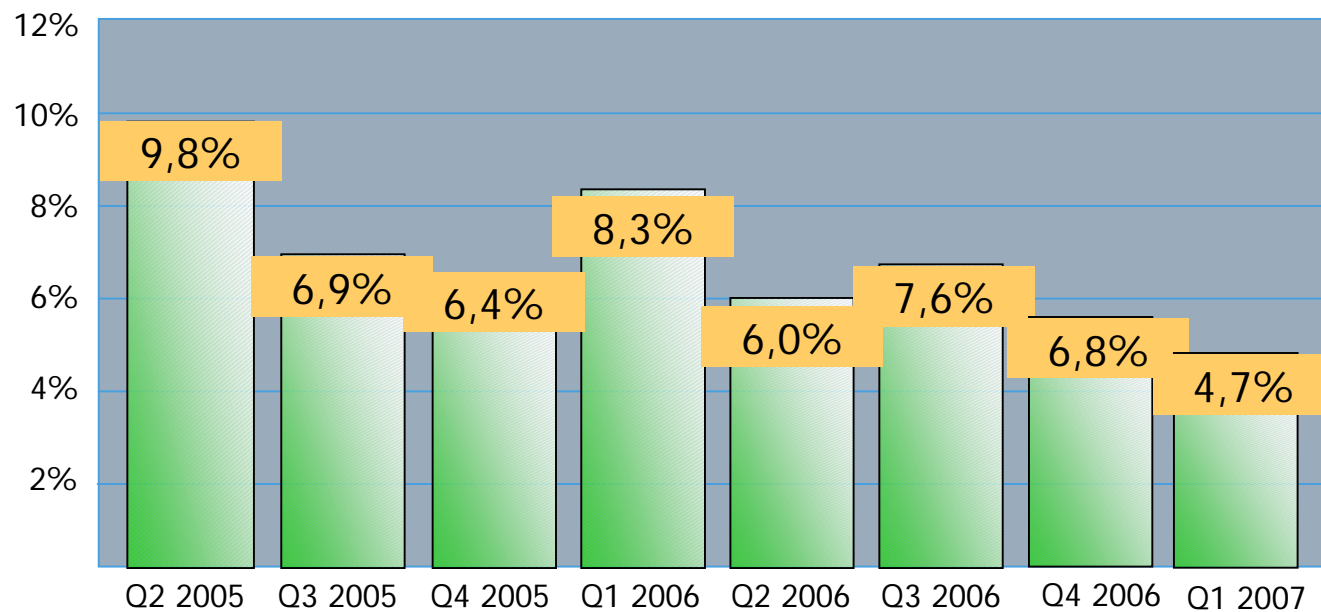


# Control chart of build process

Build errors  
Unit test errors  
FXCop failed



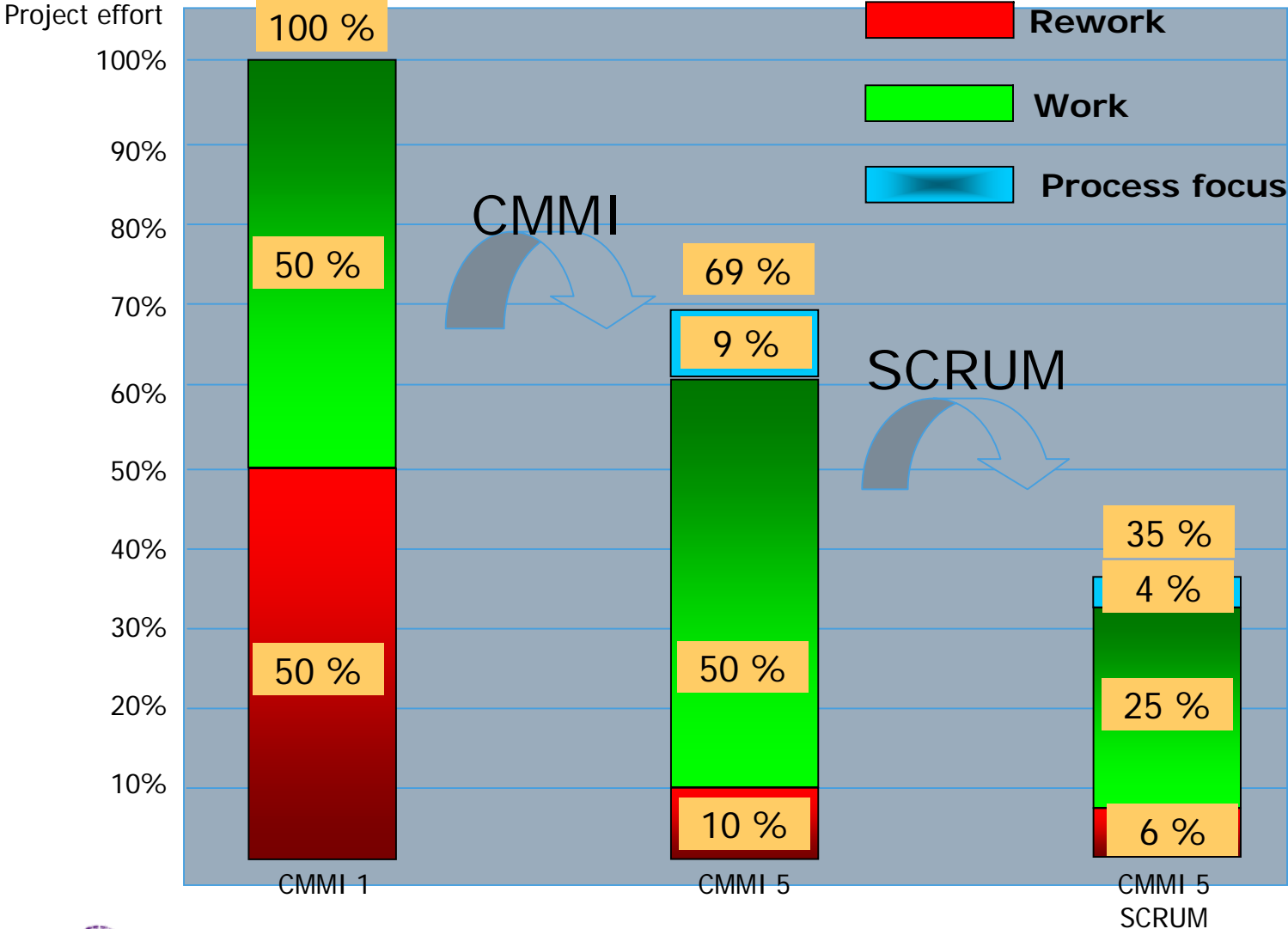
# Rework at Systematic





# Scrum applied to CMMI Level 5 company

- 6 month results



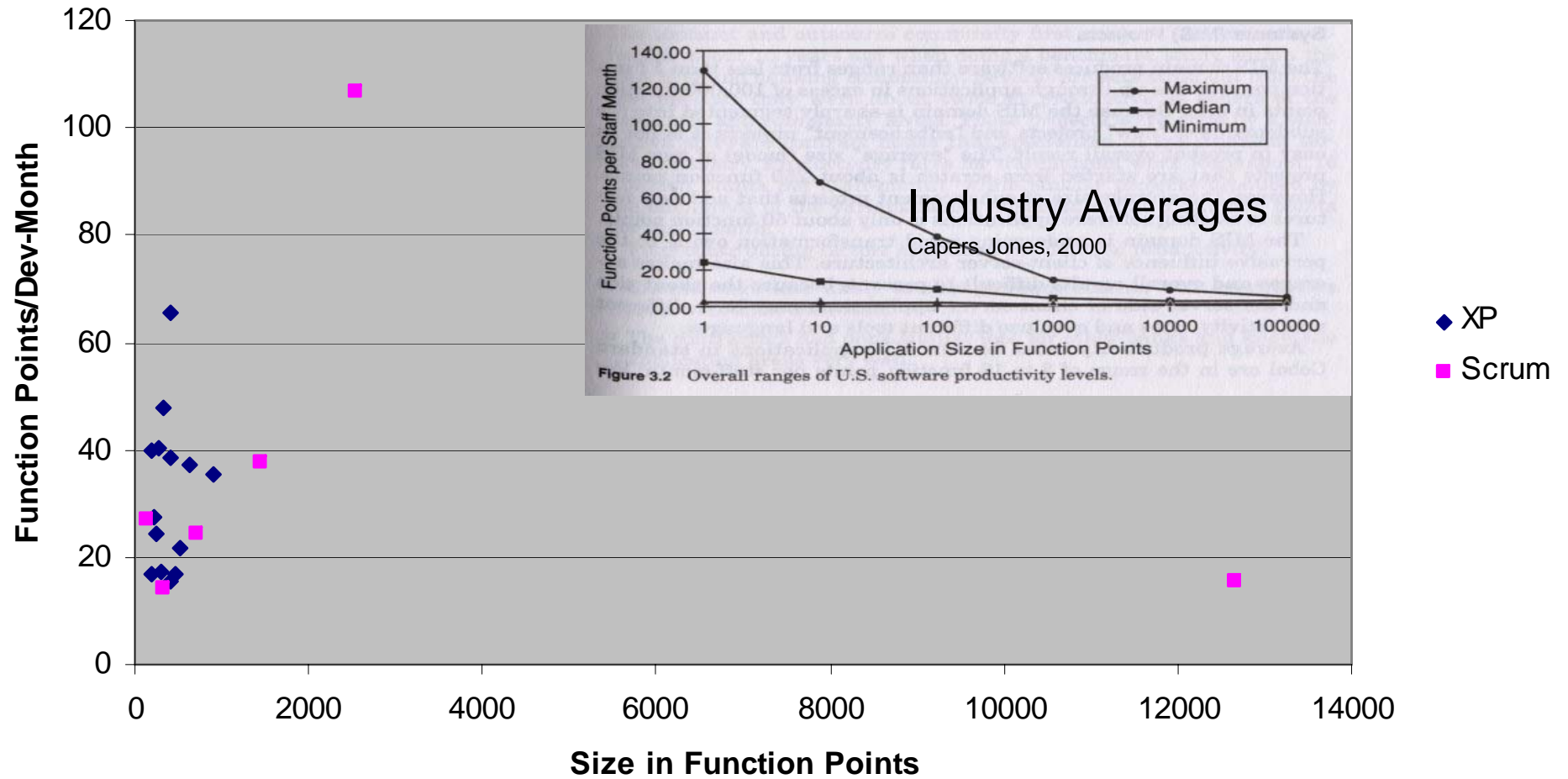
# Systematic CMMI 5 Analysis

## First six months of Scrum

- ~80% reduction in planning and documentation costs (still under discussion at Systematic)
- 40% reduction in defects
- 50% reduction in rework
- 100% increase in overall productivity
- Systematic decided to change CMMI Level 5 process to make Scrum the default mode of project management
- When waterfall project management is required, they are now need to be contracted for twice the price of Scrum projects
  - Required by some defense and healthcare agencies
  - Results are lower business value
  - Lower customer satisfaction
  - Lower quality
  - Twice the cost

Sutherland, J., C. Jacobson, et al. (2007). Scrum and CMMI Level 5: A Magic Potion for Code Warriors! Agile 2007, Washington, D.C., IEEE.

# Exigen Services Productivity

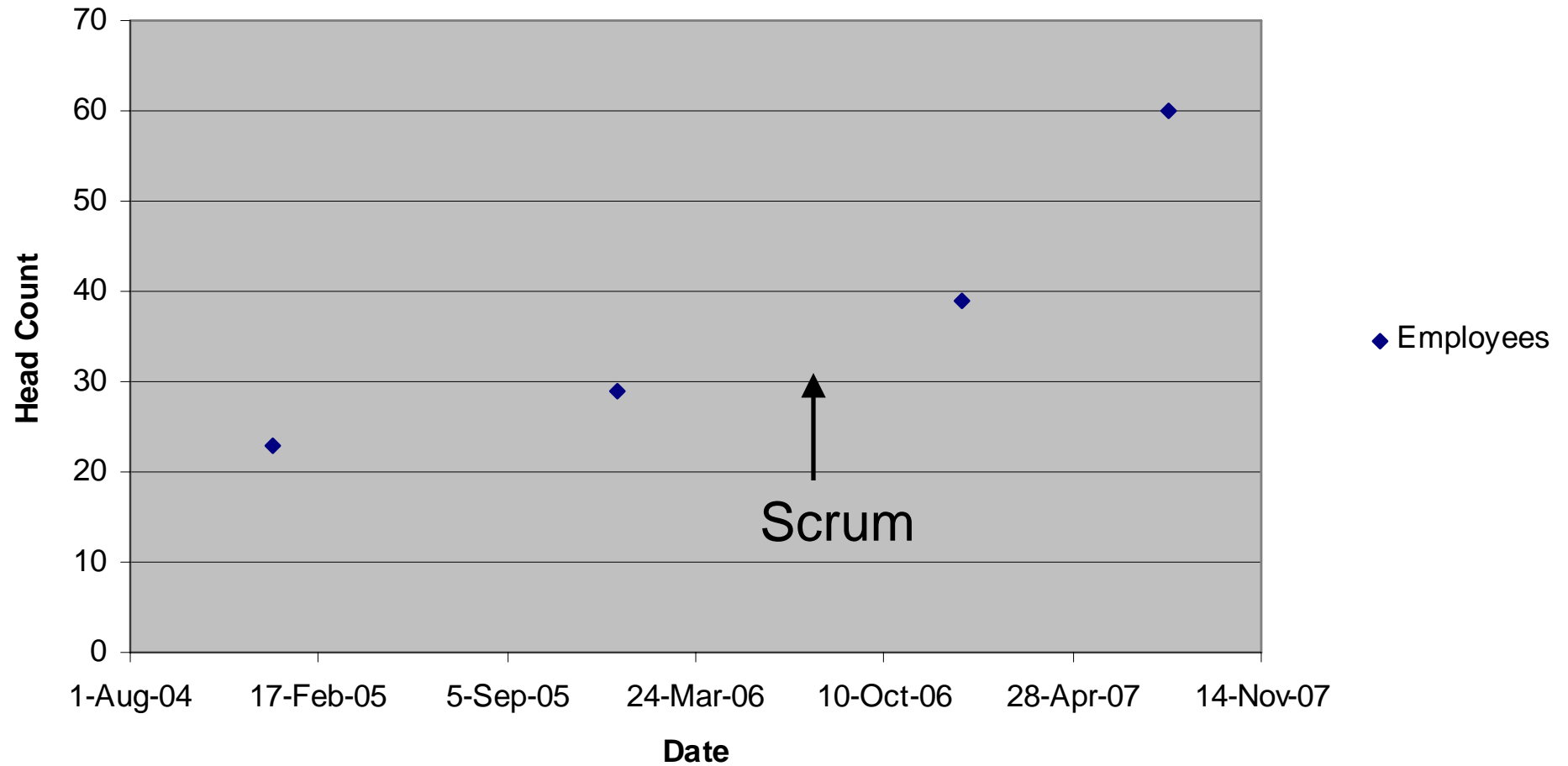


# Trifork



- Company wide Scrum
- Goals
  - Every employee a Certified ScrumMaster
  - Every part of company run by Scrum
- Sales force are Certified ScrumMasters and only execute Agile contracts
- JAOO run by Scrum – bigger than Agile 2007

## Trifork 2004-2007





Sutherland, J., A. Viktorov, and J. Blount. **Adaptive Engineering of Large Software Projects with Distributed/Outsourced Teams.** In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Complex Systems.* 2006. Boston, MA, USA.