



# KEY CONCEPTS OF AGILE

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# Ahmed Sidky

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- ▶ Director of Agile Services at TenPearls
- ▶ Over 10 years of dev and delivery experience
- ▶ Masters in Software Engineering
- ▶ Ph.D in Agile Adoption - Virginia Tech
- ▶ Agile Educator, Coach and Consultant
- ▶ Frequent Presenter at Conferences
- ▶ Recently the Program Chair of Agile 2009



# A Word About TenPearls

- Process Automation, Optimization
- Outsourcing
- Software Products and Services
- Technology and IT Consulting



# Worldwide Locations



# Some of Our Customers



# Warming up ...

## Five Volunteers, please :)





# Scrum



“ The... ‘relay race’ approach to product development...may conflict with the goals of maximum speed and flexibility. Instead a holistic or ‘rugby’ approach - where a team tries to go the distance as a unit, passing the ball back and forth - may better serve today’s competitive requirements. ”

The New New Product Development Game, by Hirotaka Takeuchi, Ikujiro Nonaka.  
Harvard Business Review, January 1986

# Why Agile ...



# Chasing the Rabbit

- **Chasing the Rabbit by Steven Spear**
- Describes what sets high-velocity, market-leading organizations apart and explains how to lead the pack in your industry
- Toyota, Aloca, Pratt and Whitney, US Navy's Nuclear Power Program and many many more.
- Structure and dynamics of high-velocity organizations

# Chasing the Rabbit

## Managing the Functions as Part of the Process

They avoid “siloization”

Functional integration at all levels – everyday

Each piece of work be done with an eye to the larger process

Avoid phrases like “You do your job and I’ll do mine”

# Chasing the Rabbit

## Continually Improving the Pieces and the Process

Constantly experimenting and learning more about the work

Getting rid of the problem once and for all

Constantly modifying the way they work

Each piece of work be done in such a way as to bring problems to the attention of those who can best analyze and solve them

Do not encourage workarounds and firefighting

Avoid phrases like: “This will do for now” or “Don’t worry this happens all the time”





How the customer explained it



How the Project Leader understood it



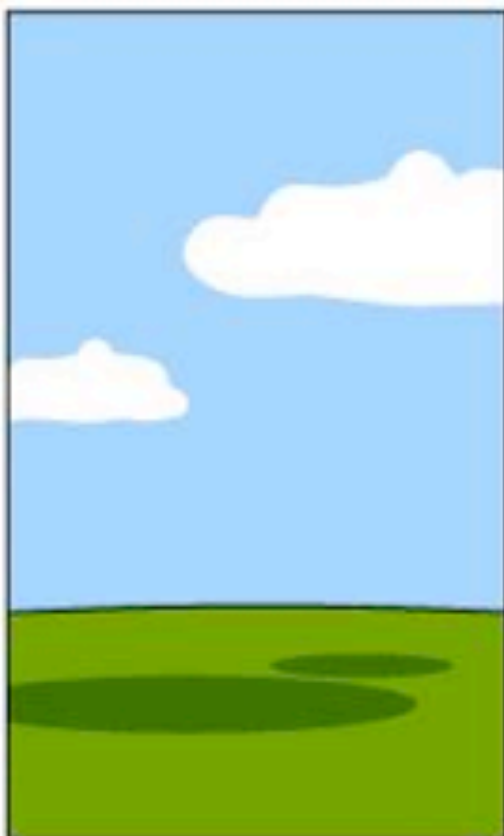
How the Analyst designed it



How the Programmer wrote it



How the Business Consultant described it



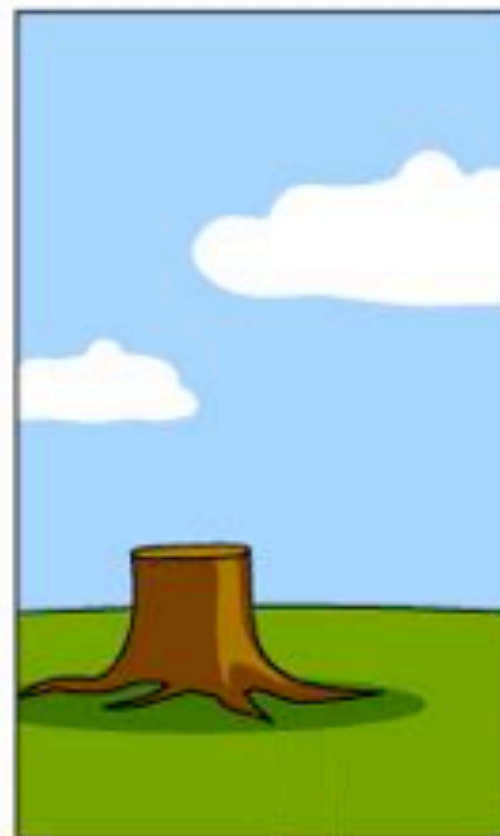
How the project was documented



What operations installed



How the customer was billed



How it was supported



What the customer really needed

# 3 Things ...

- **We wish were true**

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

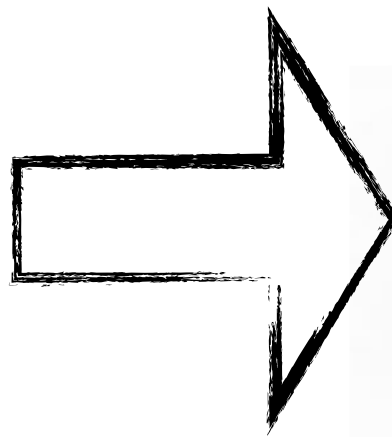
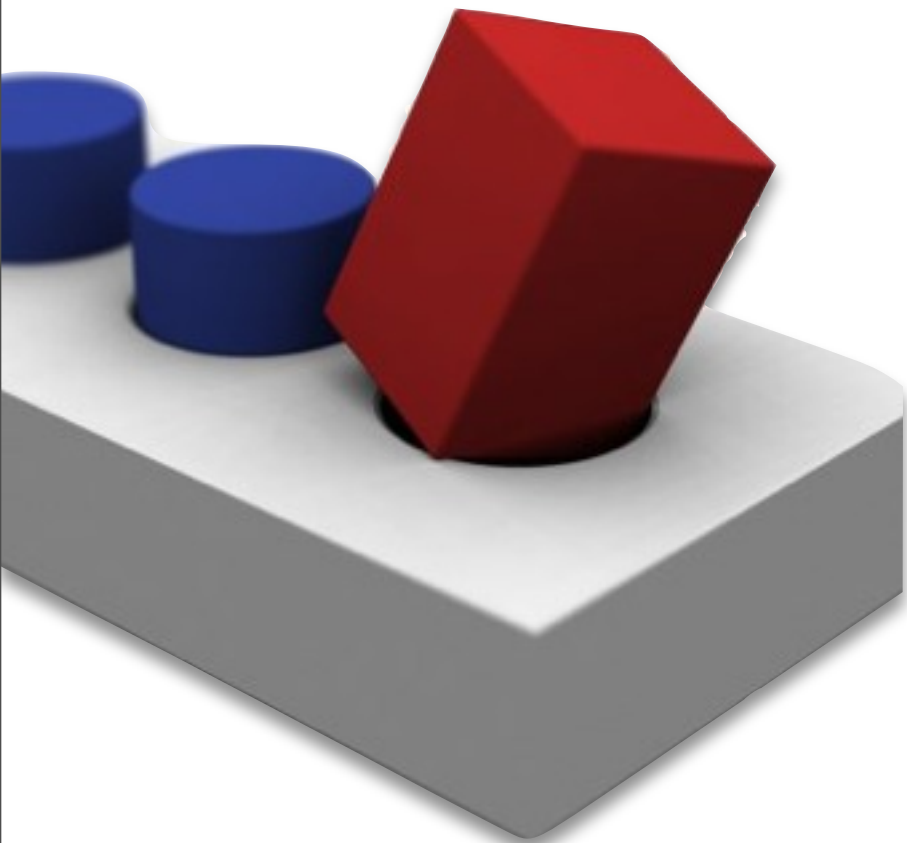
**We have to live with**

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



# Traditional Approach to Software Development

“Try Harder, I am sure it will work !!!”



“Great, I think it worked”

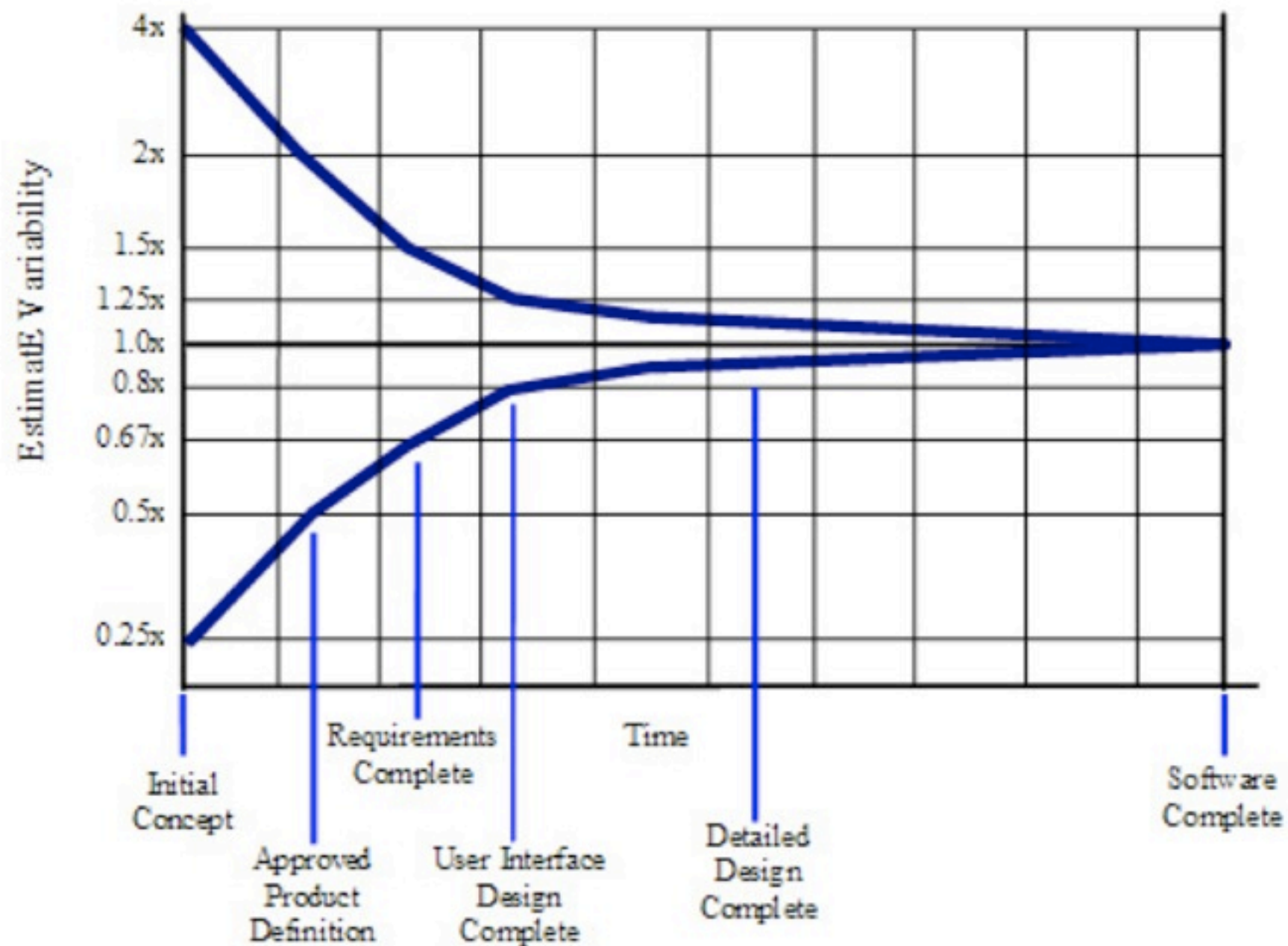


# The Reality of Software

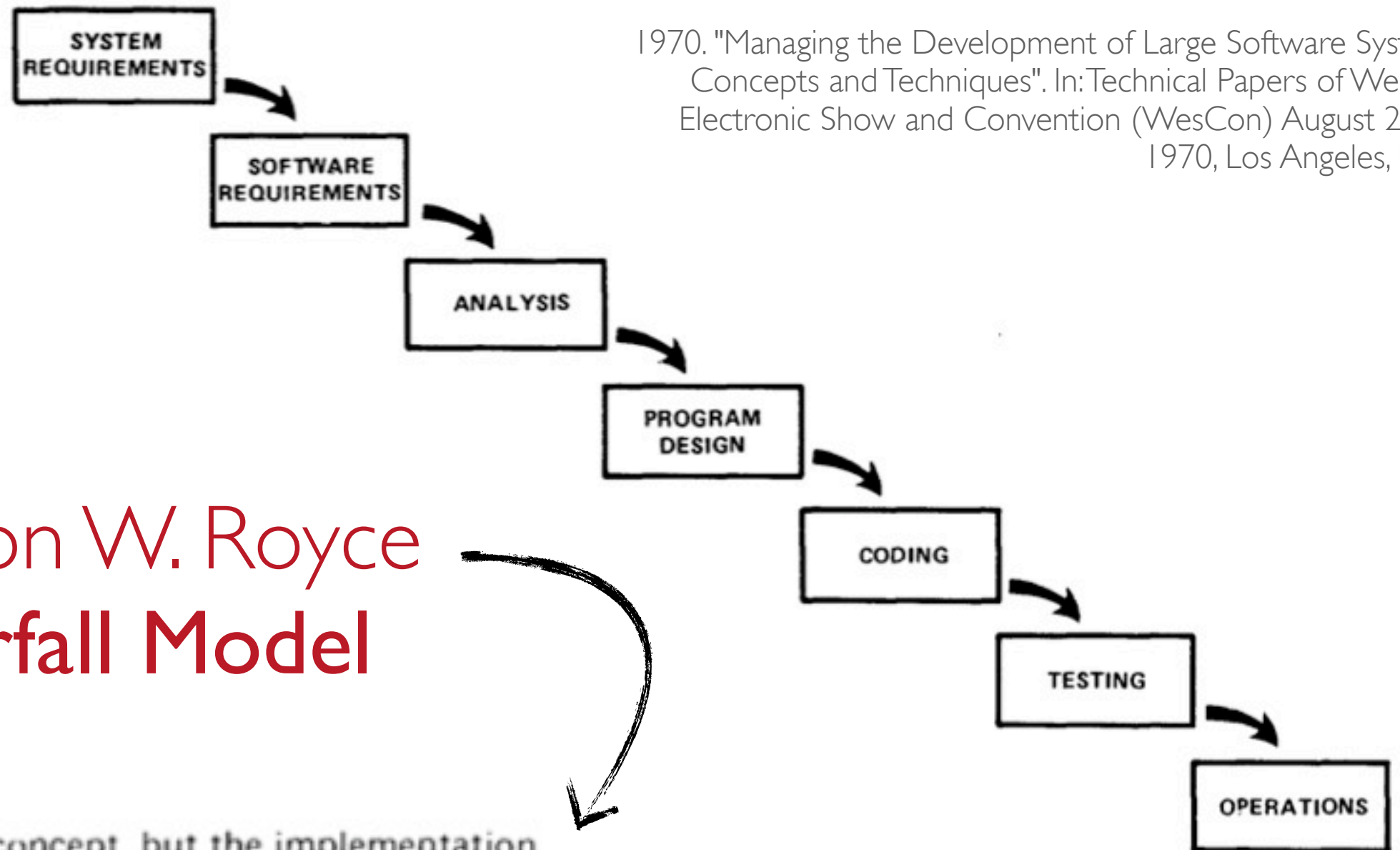
Predictable Manufacturing (Defined Process)	New Product Development (Empirical Process)
It is possible to first complete specifications, and then build.	Rarely possible to create upfront unchanging and detailed specs.
Near the start, one can reliably estimate effort and cost.	Near the beginning, it is not possible. As empirical data emerge, it becomes increasingly possible to plan and estimate.
It is possible to identify, define, schedule, and order all the detailed activities.	Near the beginning, it is not possible. Adaptive steps driven by build-feedback cycles are required.
Adaptation to unpredictable change is not the norm, and change-rates are relatively low.	Creative adaptation to unpredictable change is the norm. Change rates are high.

Source: IBM Global Services – Dr. Christoph Steindle

# The Cone of Uncertainty



# Looks Familiar ?



1970. "Managing the Development of Large Software Systems: Concepts and Techniques". In: Technical Papers of Western Electronic Show and Convention (WesCon) August 25-28, 1970, Los Angeles, USA.

## Dr. Winston W. Royce The Waterfall Model

“ I believe in this concept, but the implementation described above is risky and invites failure. ”



# Quick History of Agile

Software Crisis (1960's) Software intensive systems delivered late, over budget and do not meet the quality requirements

Solution attempt #1: **Structured Methods** (in 1970's)

Solution attempt #2: **Object Oriented Methodologies**

Chronic Software Crisis (1990's) Software intensive systems still delivered late, over budget and do not meet the quality requirements

Solution attempt #3: **Software process improvement**

Solution attempt #4: **Agile development methodologies**

# Pre-Agile: Lightweight Methodologies

**Extreme Programming** (Kent Beck, Ward Cunningham, Ron Jeffries)

**Scrum** (Ken Schwaber and Jeff Sutherland)

**Lean Software Development** (Mary and Tom Poppendieck)

**Crystal Methods** (Alistair Cockburn)

**Feature Driven Development** (Jeff DeLuca)

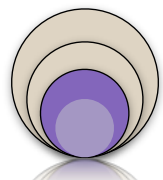
**Dynamic Systems Development Method** (DSDM Consortium)

# The Agile Manifesto (Agile Values)

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

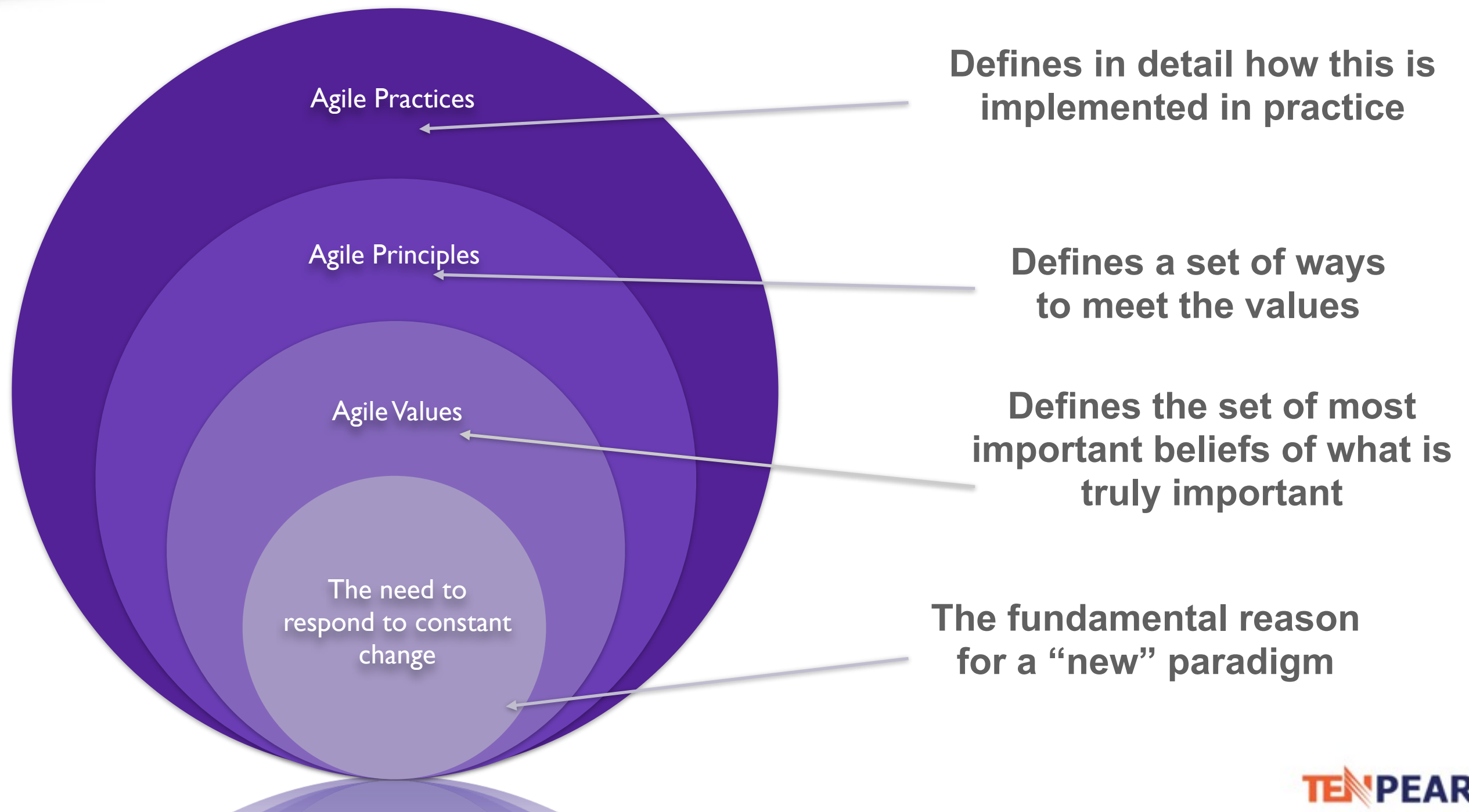
- **Individuals and interactions** over processes and tools
- **Working software** over comprehensive documentation
- **Customer collaboration** over contract negotiation
- **Responding to change** over following a plan

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

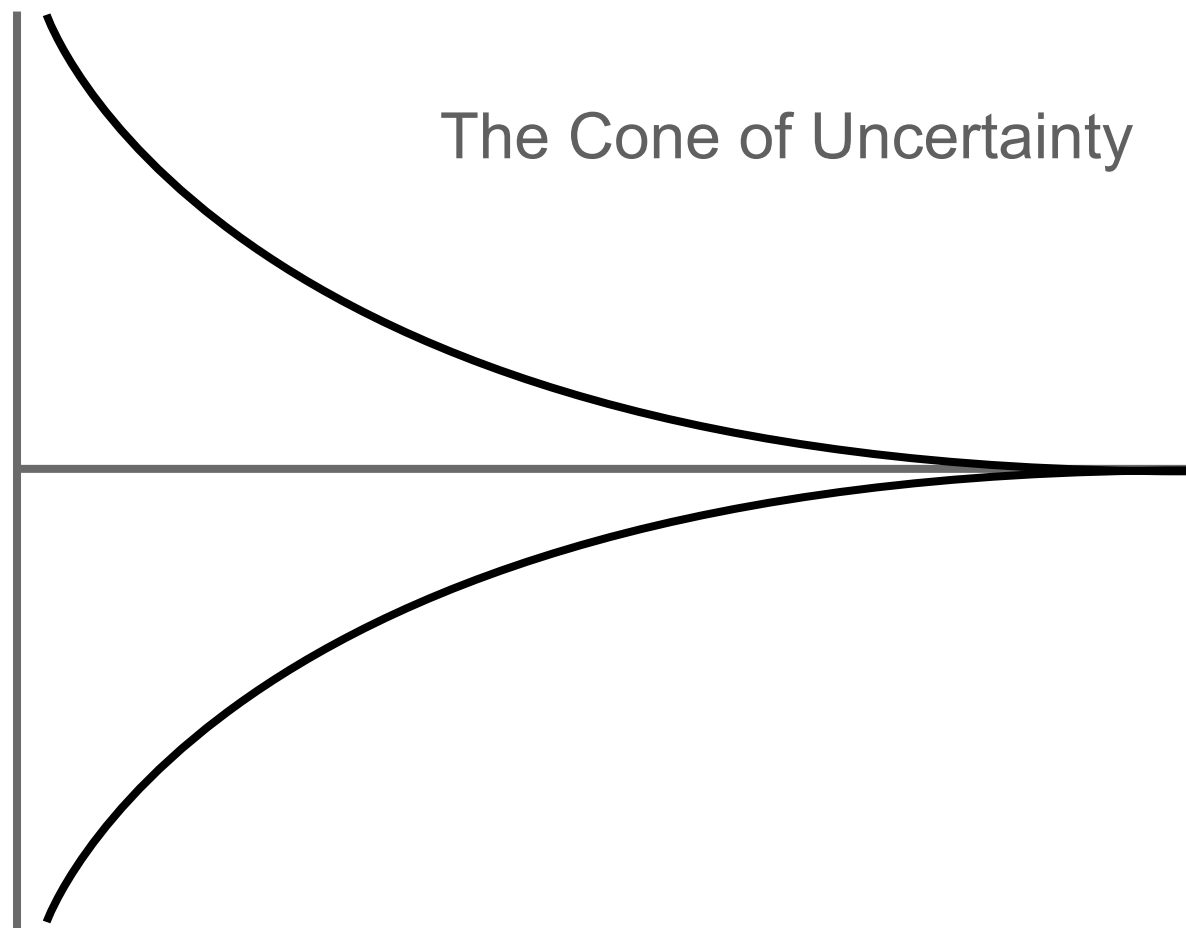




# Agile at a Glance

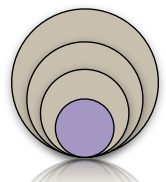
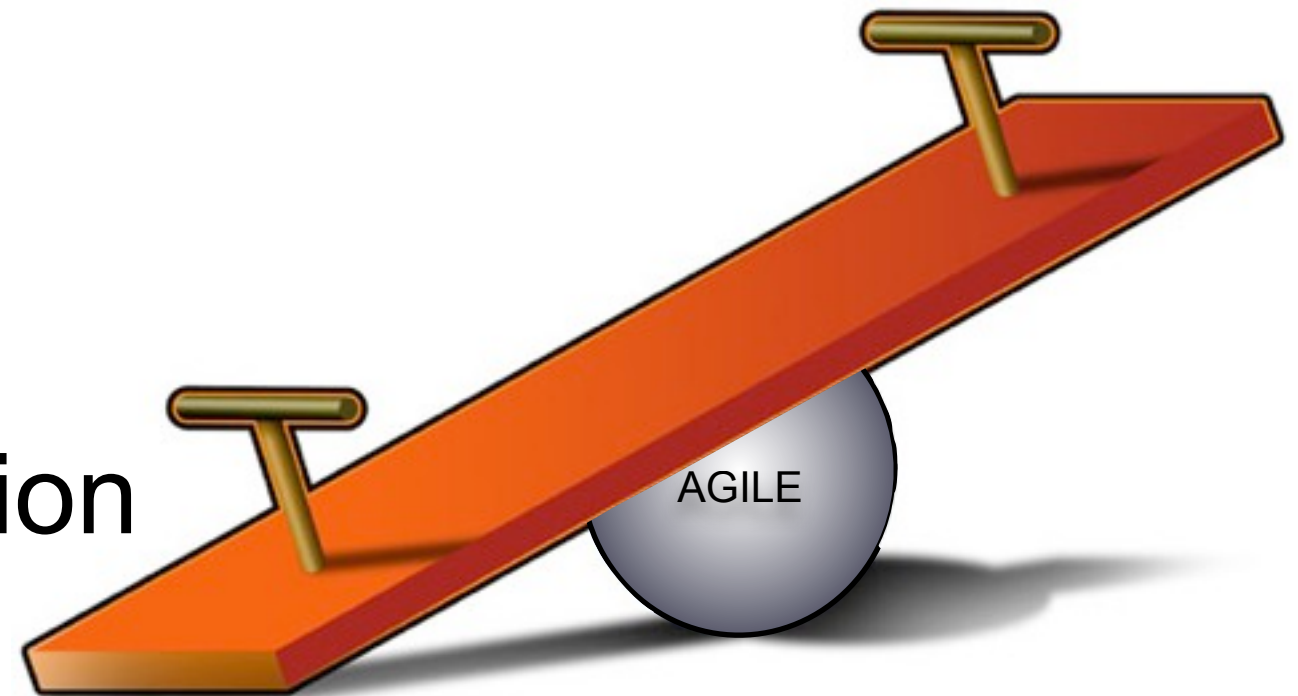


# Shifting Paradigms

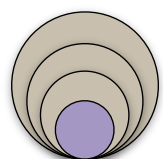
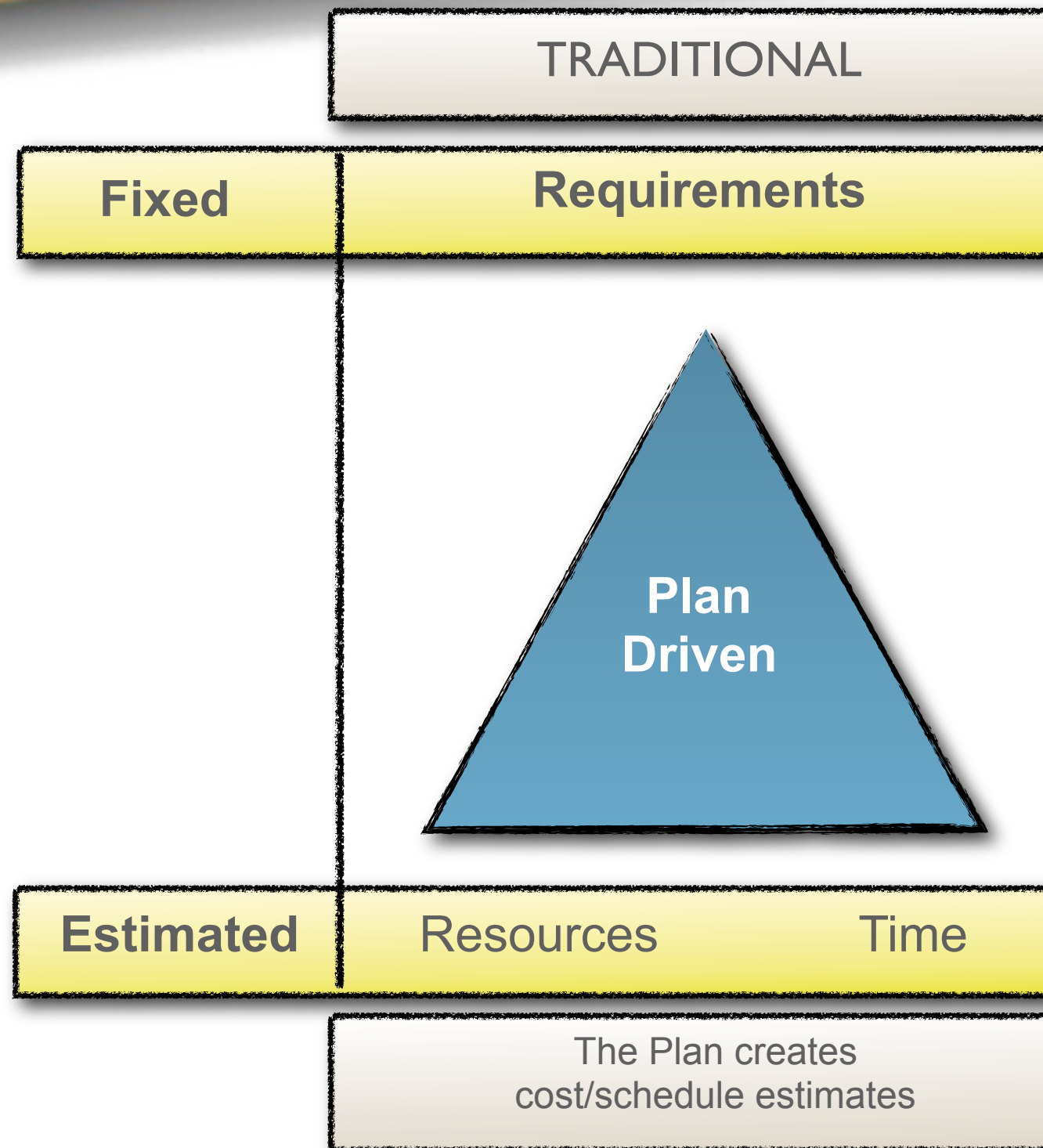


Anticipation

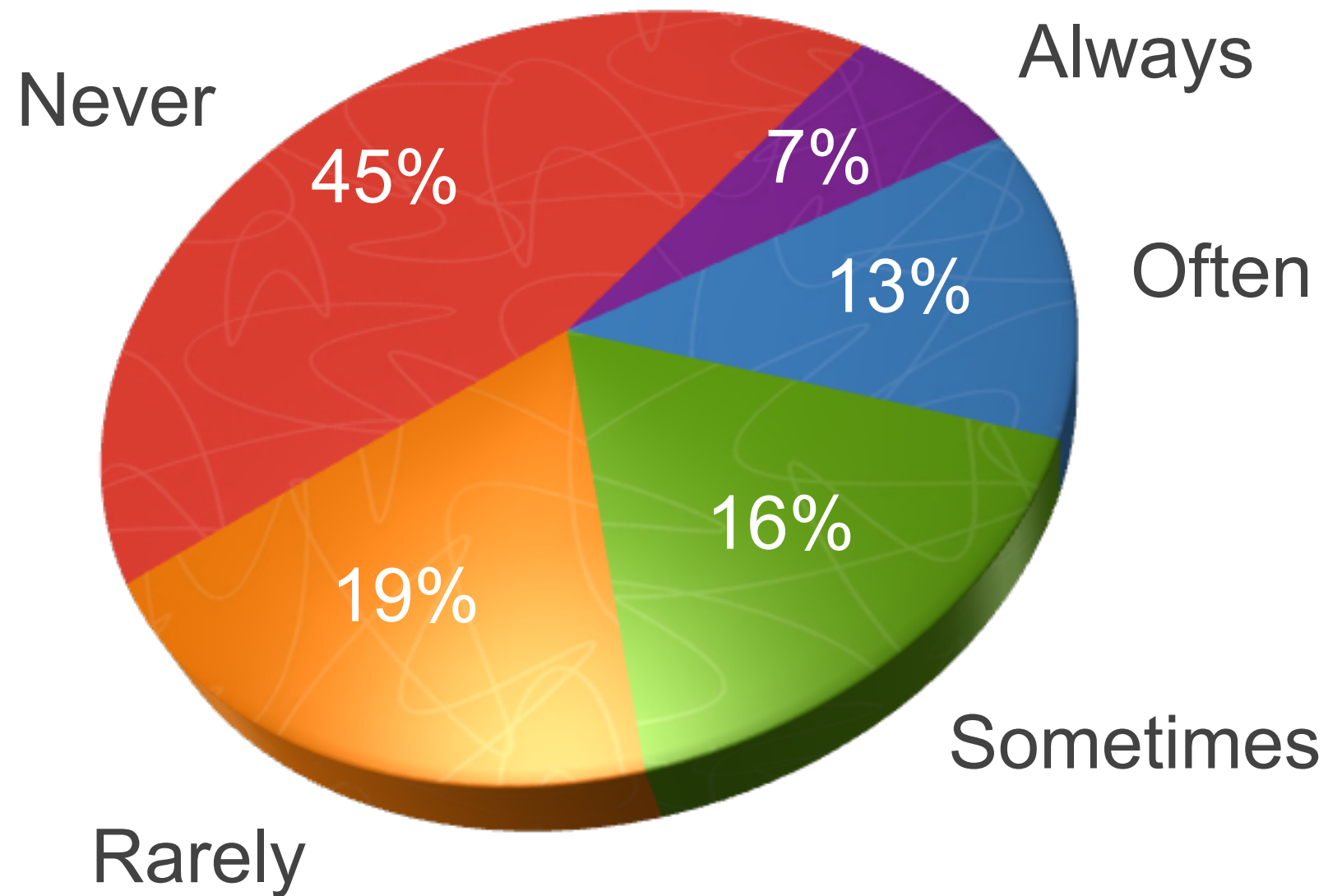
Adaptation



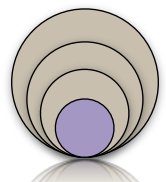
# Paradigm Shift



# Feature Usage



Source: Jim Johnson of the Standish Group, Keynote Speech XP 2002



Always Often Sometimes Rarely Never



# Lean Principles

- Eliminate Waste (Removing non-value-adding wastes)
  - Waste is partially done software, and extra features,
  - “Churns” [Batch Productions] – Requirements, Test & Fix – usually sign of large inventory of partially done work
- Build in Quality
  - Build quality into the code from the start, not test it in later
  - Control the conditions so not to allow defects in the first place
- Create Knowledge
  - Generating new knowledge about the product through disciplined experimentation
  - Systematic learning throughout the development lifecycle.
  - Avoid “analysis paralysis”

# Waste

## **The Seven Wastes of Manufacturing**

Overproduction
Inventory
Extra Processing Steps
Motion
Defects
Waiting
Transportation

## **The Seven Wastes of Software Development**

Overproduction = Extra Features
Inventory = Requirements
Extra Processing Steps = Extra Steps
Motion = Finding Information
Defects = Defects Not Caught by Tests
Waiting = Waiting, Including Customers
Transportation = Handoffs

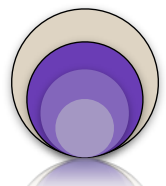
# Lean Principles

- Defer Commitment
  - **Last responsible moment, Just-in-time**
- Deliver Fast
- Respect People
  - **Greatest Asset**
  - **People not resources**
- Optimize the whole
  - **Throughput optimization**
- GAMBA, in essence the boss on the floor looking at what is going on.



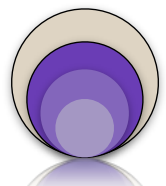
# Agile Principles

1. Our highest priority is to satisfy the customer through early and continuous delivery of valuable software.
2. Welcome changing requirements, even late in development. Agile processes harness change for the customer's competitive advantage.
3. Deliver working software frequently, from a couple of weeks to a couple of months, with a preference to the shorter timescale.
4. Business people & developers must work together daily throughout project.
5. Build projects around motivated individuals. Give them the environment and support they need, and trust them to get the job done.
6. The most efficient and effective method of conveying information to and within a development team is face-to-face conversation.



# Agile Principles

7. Working software is the primary measure of progress.
8. Agile processes promote sustainable development. The sponsors, developers, and users should be able to maintain a constant pace indefinitely.
9. Continuous attention to technical excellence & good design enhances agility.
10. Simplicity--the art of maximizing the amount of work not done--is essential.
11. The best architectures, requirements, & designs emerge from self-organizing teams.
12. At regular intervals, the team reflects on how to become more effective, then tunes and adjusts its behavior accordingly.



# Principles verses Practices

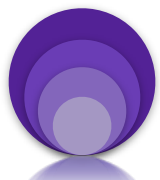
- “Principles are underlying truths that don’t change over time or space.
- Practices are the application of principles to a particular situation
- Practices can and should differ as you move from one environment to the next and they also change as a situation evolves”<sup>1</sup>
- I don’t like the notion of “best practices”

<sup>1</sup> From the book: Implementing Lean Software Development; from Concept to Cash



# Agile Practices

- Self Organizing Teams
- Release Planning
- Iteration Planning
- Deliver Frequently
- Time boxing
- Client-Driven Iterations
- Retrospectives
- Team Room
- Pair Programming
- Automated Unit Testing
- Test Driven Development
- Continuous Integration
- Refactoring



Minimum Process  
Maximum Value

# Crossing the Chasm

## Value Driven Agile Adoption

### **5: Encompassing**

Establishing a vibrant and all-encompassing environment to sustain agility

### **4: Adaptive**

Responding to change through multiple levels of feedback

### **3: Integrated**

Developing high quality, working software in an efficient and integrated manner

### **2: Evolutionary**

Delivering software early and continuously

### **1: Collaborative**

Enhancing communication and collaboration



# Agile Practices

Step 5  
**Encompassing**

Step 4  
**Adaptive**

Step 3:  
**Integrated**

Step 2:  
**Evolutionary**

Step 1:  
**Collaborative**

	Embrace Change to Deliver Customer Value	Plan and Deliver Software Frequently	Human Centric	Technical Excellence	Collaboration with Business People
Step 5 Encompassing					
Step 4 Adaptive					
Step 3: Integrated					
Step 2: Evolutionary					
Step 1: Collaborative					

Principles can guide the population of the practices

	Embrace Change to Deliver Customer Value	Plan and Deliver Software Frequently	Human Centric	Technical Excellence	Collaboration with Business People
Step 5 Encompassing	Low Process Ceremony	Agile Project Estimation	Ideal Agile Physical Setup	Test Driven Development  Paired Programming  No/minimal number of Cockburn Level -1 or 1b people on team	Frequent Face-to-face interaction between developers & Users (Collocated)
Step 4 Adaptive	Client Driven Iterations  Customer Satisfaction Feedback	Smaller and More Frequent Releases (4-8 Weeks)  Adaptive Planning		Daily Progress Tracking Meetings  Agile Documentation (from Agile Modeling)  User Stories	Collaborative, Representative, Authorized, Committed and Knowledgeable (CRACK) Customer Immediately Accessible  Customer contract revolves around commitment of collaboration, not features
Step 3: Integrated		Risk Driven Iterations  Maintain a list of all remaining features (Backlog)	Self Organizing Teams  Frequent face-to-face communication between the team	Continuous Integration  Continuous Improvement (i.e. Refactoring)  Have around 30% of Cockburn Level 2 and Level 3 people on team  Automated Unit Tests	
Step 2: Evolutionary	Evolutionary Requirements	Continuous Delivery (Incremental-Iterative development)  Planning at different levels		Software Configuration Management  Tracking Iteration through Working Software  No Big Design Up Front (BDUF)	Customer Contract reflective of Evolutionary Development
Step 1: Collaborative	Reflect and tune Process	Collaborative Planning	Collaborative teams  Empowered and Motivated Teams	Coding Standards  Knowledge Sharing Tools ( <i>Wikis, Blogs</i> )  Task Volunteering not Task Assignment	Customer Commitment to work with Developing Team

	Embrace Change to Deliver Customer Value	Plan and Deliver Software Frequently	Human Centric	Technical Excellence	Collaboration with Business People
Step 5 Encompassing	Low Process Ceremony		Pair Programming	Test Driven Development	
Step 4 Adaptive	Client Driven Iterations  Measuring Customer satisfaction	Story Maps for Release Planning		Post-development Documentation	Collaborative, Representative, Authorized, Committed and Knowledgeable (CRACK) Customer Immediately Accessible
Step 3: Integrated	Streamlining usability with development efforts	Using Agile PM Tools  Automated Deployment  Configuration Management		Automated Build and Deployment scripts  Refactoring  Continuous Integration  One-click-builds	Agile Contracting
Step 2: Evolutionary	Evolutionary Requirements	Multi-level Planning (Releases and Iterations)  Time-boxed iterations  Steady Releases every 6 weeks  Burn-up Charts	Celebrating Success   Self Organizing Teams	No Big Design Upfront: Just in time design - high-level design on a release level and low level design on an iteration level	Customer milestones are reflective of valuable releases of software not phases
Step 1: Collaborative	Retrospectives  User Stories with Acceptance Tests	Whole-team collaborative planning  Group Estimation using planning poker  Maintaining a Backlog  Daily Standups	Empowered Cross-functional teams  Emotional Chart  Task Volunteering  Team Room with Information Radiators		Project Chartering   Customer Commitment to work with Developing Team