



How Do You Use Agile Methods on Highly-Critical Systems that Require Earned Value Management?

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Do you agree with this statement?



- If a project is using agile practices they can apply Earned Value Management (EVM) in reporting progress against their plans.

Agenda

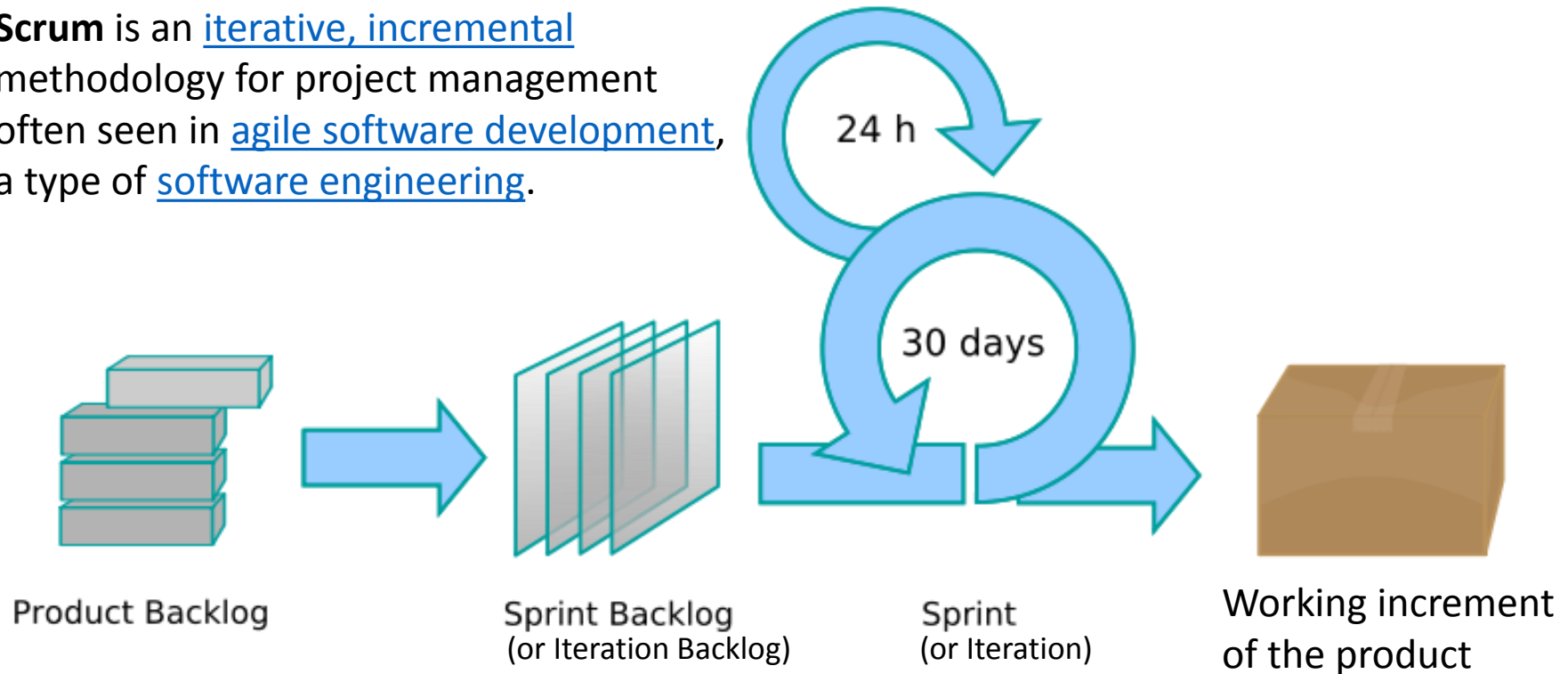


- Introduction to Agile (Scrum)
- Agile Systems Engineering (SE) Framework
- Differences in Agile and Traditional SE
- Planning the project
- Estimating the effort
- Highly-critical systems
- Government Accounting Office
- References: see the NDIA white paper

Introduction to Agile (Scrum)



Scrum is an iterative, incremental methodology for project management often seen in agile software development, a type of software engineering.



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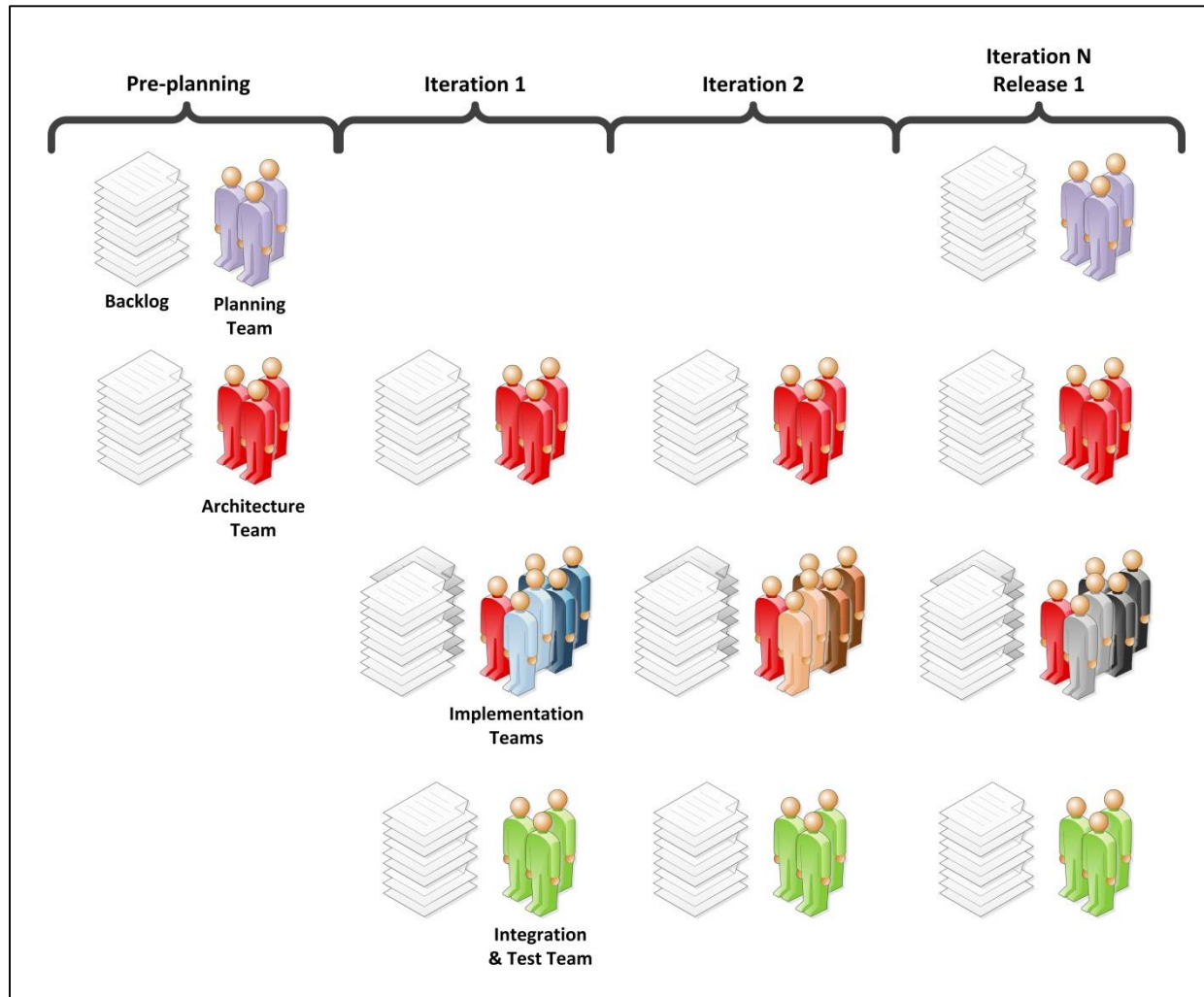
Agile Includes:



- Scrum: Iterative, incremental methodology for project management
- Lean: reduce waste, reduce Work in Process (WIP); have what you need to start; once an item is started finish it before starting the next item;
- eXtreme Programming: pair programming, continuous integration, automated testing, test first development,
- Crystal Methods: frequent delivery, reflective improvement, daily stand-up meetings, side-by-side programming, burn charts, automated tests, configuration management, frequent integration

Agile is often called Lean-Agile

Agile Systems Engineering (SE) Framework



Agile SE Framework

Differences from Traditional SE



- Changes to the architecture – Flexible, modular architecture framework; rather than having Big Design Up Front (BDUF)
- Changes to the process – iterative, incremental rather than traditional or sequential
- Changes to the roles
 - SE become members of the implementation teams;
 - SE staffing remains more level throughout the development to support and maintain the architecture, requirements, testing, verification, artifact development, etc.

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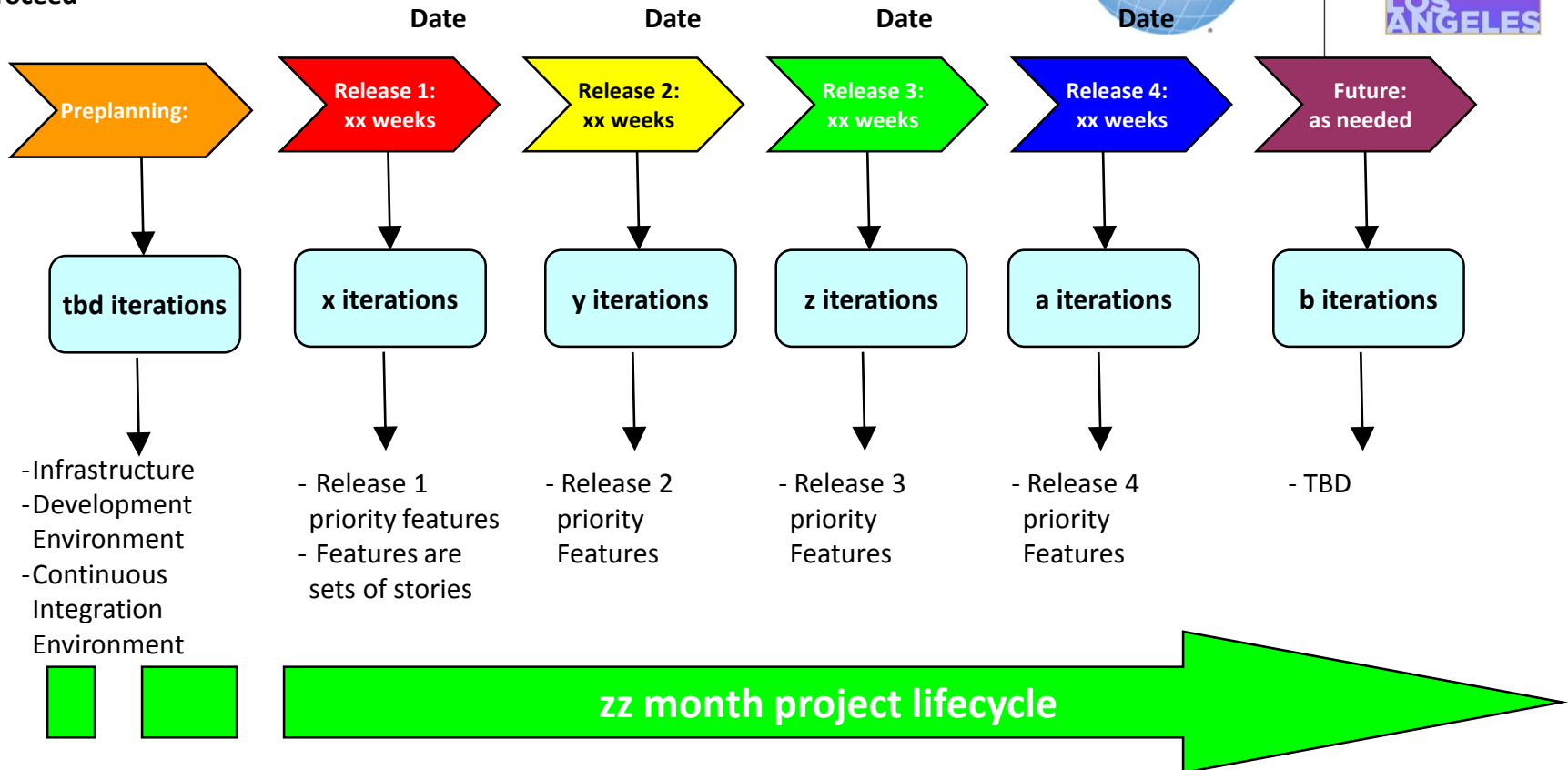
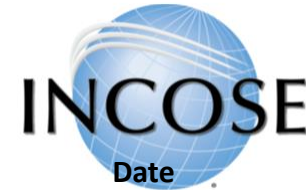
Agile SE Framework Summary



- SE and SWE work together to develop and evolve the work products iteratively
- Define “just enough” architecture and requirements prior to the beginning of implementation
- Release Planning and Iteration Planning are essential to detail the work and coordinate the teams
- Demonstration working products frequently
- Absorb changes to mission requirements
- Include requirements, architecture, system design and validation by SE on large scale agile projects

Agile Roadmap Template

Authority To
Proceed



Projects using agile practices should have an identified period of performance. During that period of performance releases are defined that have specific features or capabilities. This is called a Roadmap.

Estimate the Project for the Period of Performance



- Initial planning estimates Features in story points
- You may not know the specific stories to create each Feature in the beginning
- Story points are relative to each other
- Find the Feature that is the easiest or fastest to do
- Give it 1
- Estimate rest of Features relative to that 1 using
 - Powers of 2: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256, . . . or
 - Fibonacci Series: 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 20, 40, 100, . . .

Estimate Features and Prioritize



| Feature | Story Points |
|------------|--------------|
| Feature 1 | 1 |
| Feature 2 | 40 |
| Feature 3 | 100 |
| Feature 4 | 20 |
| Feature 5 | 256 |
| Feature 6 | 13 |
| Feature 7 | 8 |
| Feature 8 | 5 |
| ... | ... |
| Feature xx | 256 |



| Feature | Story Points |
|------------|--------------|
| Feature 1 | 1 |
| Feature 8 | 5 |
| Feature 4 | 20 |
| Feature 7 | 8 |
| Feature 6 | 13 |
| Feature 2 | 40 |
| Feature 3 | 100 |
| Feature 5 | 256 |
| ... | ... |
| Feature xx | 256 |

**Release
1**

Features are ordered into the roadmap based on milestones/releases to meet customer expectations. Use Rolling Wave Planning for later releases.

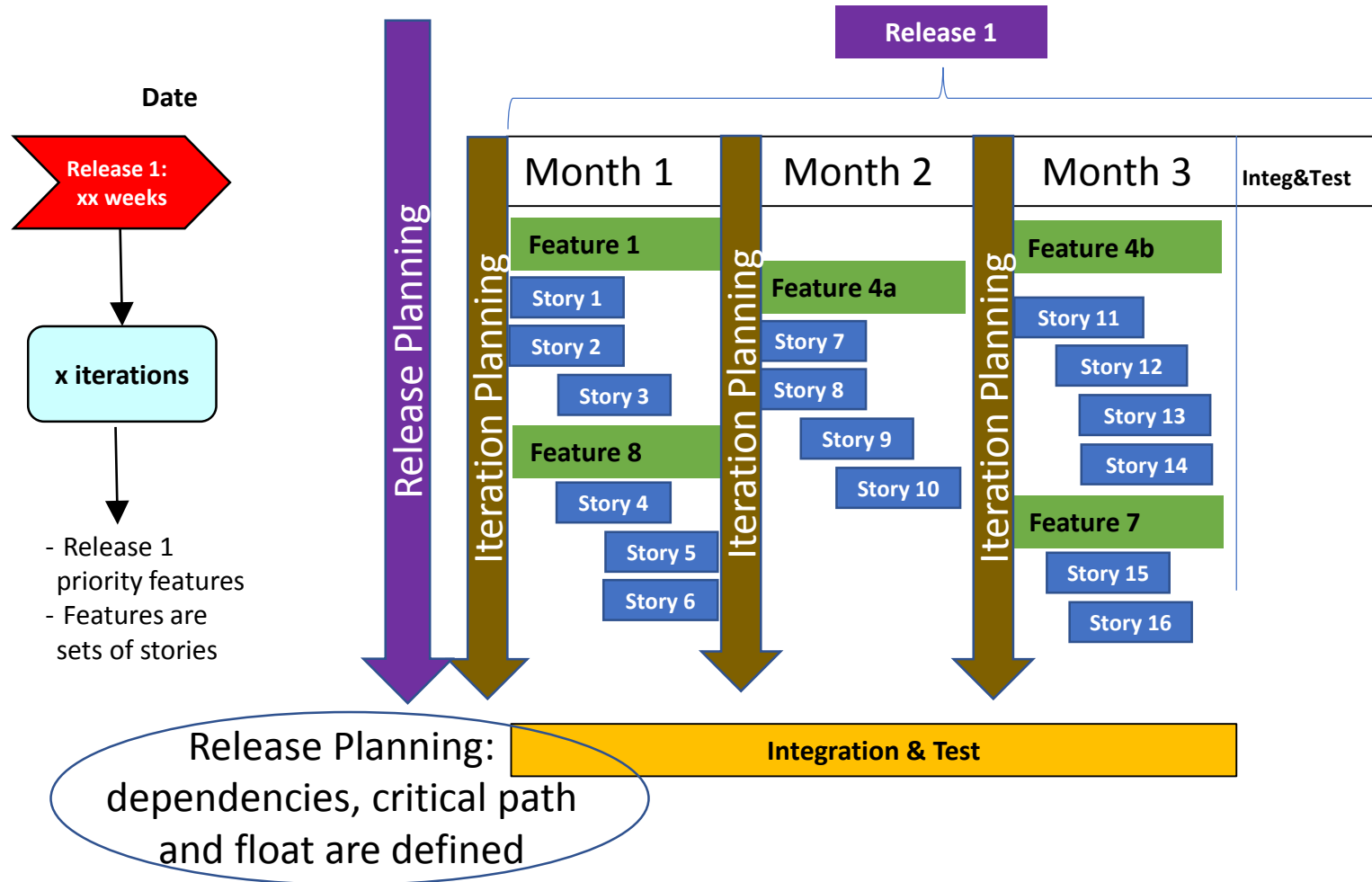
Agile and Earned Value Management (EVM)



- Each software release is a milestone deliverable
- Progress reported weekly on the % complete story points for each feature's planned total story points
- An EVM work package (WP) is one or more Features
- Story points are the estimated effort to complete a backlog item, or user story
 - Example, some features might have a total of 120 story points and 10 user stories
 - Others might have 20 story points and 2 user stories
- Business value is in the completion of the Features (WP)
- A release might have a partial feature delivered that will be finished in the next release

Features are measured in story points, a measure of effort or complexity

Roadmap provides the big picture - Details come during Release and Iteration Planning



Earned Value Management (EVM)



- Earned Value Management (EVM) is a management system that integrates scope, schedule, cost and performance policies, procedures and processes by which programs manage work.
- Helps project managers measure project performance and progress in an objective manner.
- Project Plan – identifies work to be accomplished
- Planned Value (PV) – Valuation of planned work, budgeted cost for work scheduled (BCWS)
- Earned Value (EV) – Metrics that quantify work accomplished, budgeted cost for work performed (BCWP)
- Actual Cost of Work Performed (ACWP) is cumulative hours and/or cost to time now for work.

Budgeted Cost of Work Performed (BCWP)



The value of work completed at a given point in time, synonymous with “Earned Value”. Expressed in dollars representing the portion of the budgeted value of the baseline Work Package that is complete.

Example Formula: $BCWP = \% \text{ Complete} * BAC$, where $\% \text{ Complete} = \text{completed Work Package Story Points} / \text{current total Work Package Story Points}$.

Note: the Work Package baseline budget (BAC) of the calculation does not fluctuate if the team adds or removes Stories / Story Points provided that the baseline Work Package scope does not change. Changing the total Story Points in a Work Package would impact the $\% \text{ Complete}$ recognition but does not require a baseline change.

Example: BAC WP for WP xyz has a baselined estimated cost of \$100,000. The team targeted to deliver 33 of 100 Story Points by the end of Sprint n for WP xyz. At time now the team delivered 28 Story Points. WP xyz: The BCWP \$ and % $100,000 * (28/100) = \$28,000$ $(28/100) * 100 = 28\%$

Cost Variance



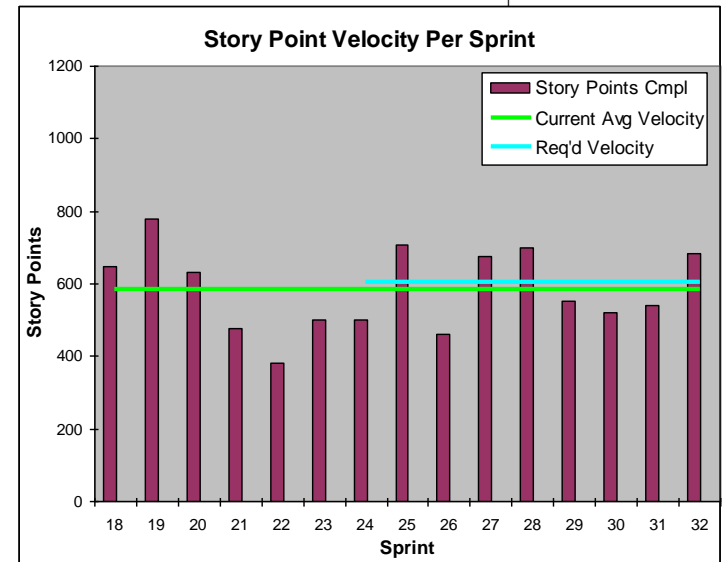
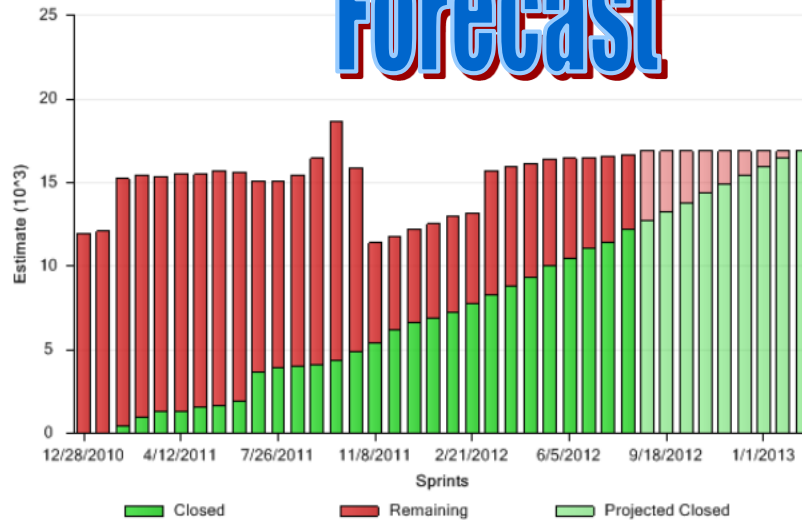
A metric for cost performance on a program. It is the difference between budgeted cost of work performed and actual cost ($CV = BCWP - ACWP$.) A positive value indicates a favorable position and a negative value indicates an unfavorable condition, and is expressed in dollars or as a percentage. The calculation for CV dollars is the difference of $BCWP - ACWP$. The calculation for CV percentage is the $((CV \text{ divided by } BCWP) * 100)$.

Example: The team targeted to deliver 33 of 100 Story Points weighted Story Value by the end of Sprint n for WP xyz. At time now the team delivered 28 Story Points of weighted Story Value. ACWP cum to date for WP xyz is \$25,000 at end of Sprint n. The Cost Variance \$ and % $BCWP \text{ to date} - ACWP \text{ cum to date} = CV$ $(100,000 * (28/100) - \$25,000 = \3000 $CV / BCWP \text{ to date} = CV \%$ $(\$3,000 / \$28,000) * 100 = 11\%$

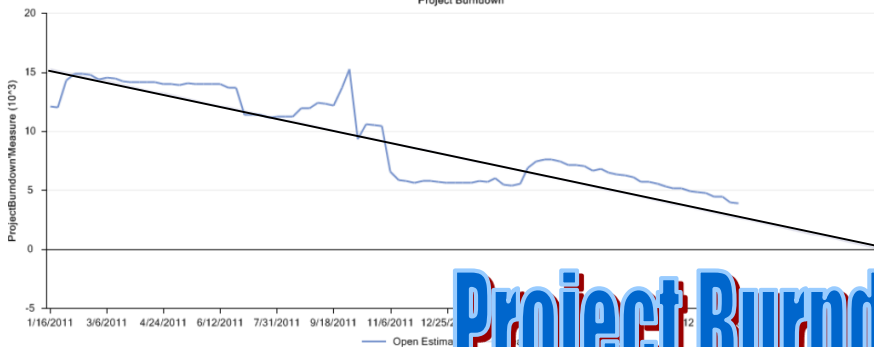
Metrics used to track progress



Forecast



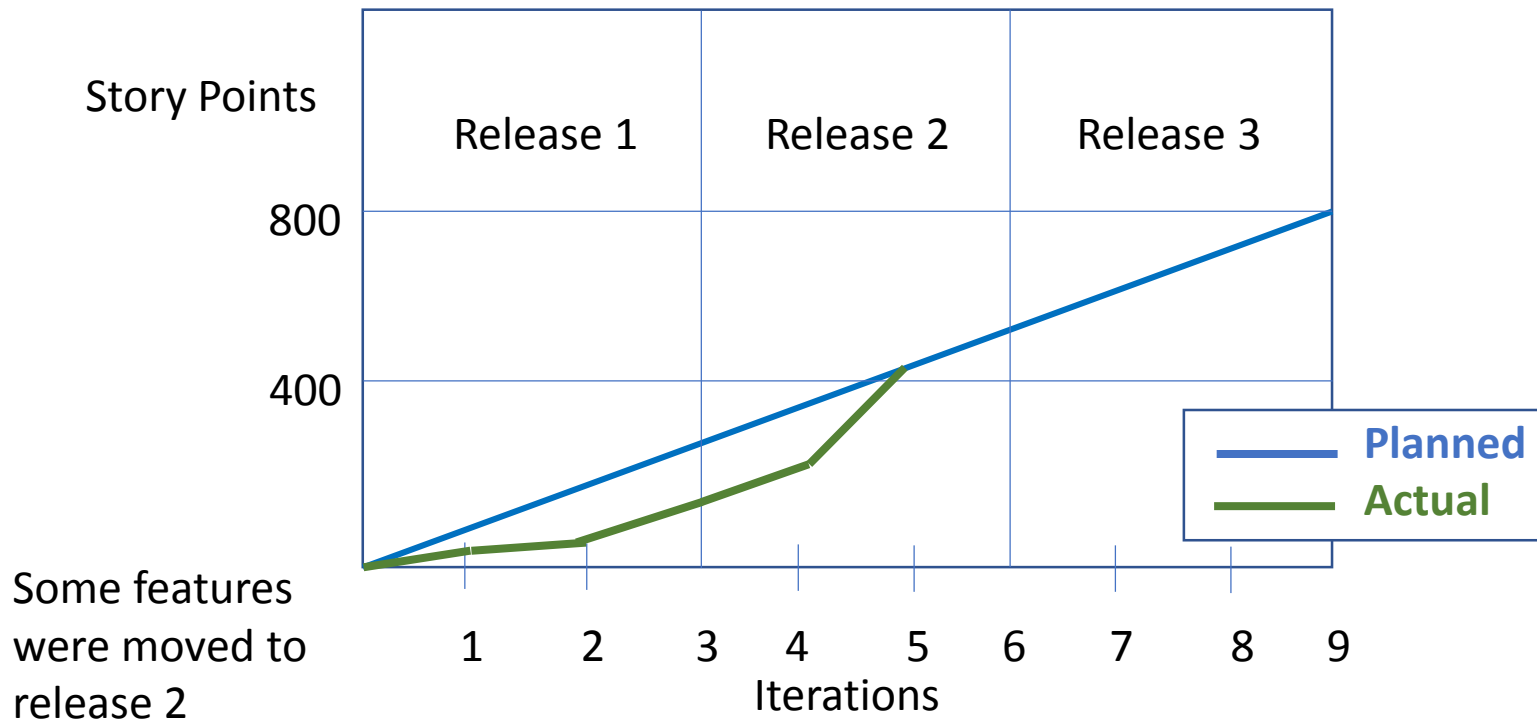
Velocity



Project Burndown

Customer attends the demonstrations every 3 weeks and has visibility of the detailed progress

Reporting story points complete each iteration versus planned



Percent complete reporting of that feature, the high value work product in development, can be used for the EVM measures.

Highly-Critical Systems



- A system that must be highly reliable, that retains this reliability as it evolves without incurring prohibitive costs
- Types of critical systems
 - Safety critical: avoid loss of life, serious injury, or damage to environment
 - Mission critical: avoid loss of ability to complete the mission objectives
 - Business critical: avoid economic costs
 - Security critical: avoid loss of sensitive data
- Examples of highly critical systems:
 - Vehicles: air, ground, sea, space, unmanned and manned
 - Defense systems: communications, missiles,
 - Manufacturing systems: chemical, industrial,
 - Infrastructure, Transportation, Health Care

Using Agile practices as highly-critical systems are developed will enable the system to evolve

Government Accounting Office (GAO)



- GAO is the watchdog for congress to make sure projects are using best practices when spending government funding
- The customer for these projects is really the American taxpayer
- GAO Schedule Assessment Guide: Best Practices for Project Schedules, GAO-16-89G, Feb 16, 2018
- GAO Cost Estimating and Assessment Guide: Best Practices for Developing and Managing Capital Program Costs, GAO-09-3SP, Mar 2, 2009

<https://www.gao.gov>

Government Accounting Office (GAO)



- Armed forces: Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, US Coast Guard; Veterans
- Bureau of Land Management
- Congress Legislative
- Dept of Agriculture
- Dept of Education
- Dept of Energy
- Dept of Health and Human Services
- Dept of Homeland Security
- Dept of Housing and Urban Dev.
- Dept of Interior
- Dept of Justice
- Dept of Labor
- Dept of Treasury
- Dept of Transportation
- Environmental Protection
- FBI, FAA, FEMA,
- NASA
- US Customs and Border Protection
- US Postal Service
- World Trade Organization

<https://www.gao.gov>

GAO Expert Meeting

17 March 2015

GAO Schedule Guide Agile Appendix



| Best Practice | Agile Artifacts & Documentation |
|--|---|
| 1. Capture All Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roadmap with Prioritized Must Have Features developed with input from stakeholders and SMEs• Roadmap linkage to SOW• Prioritized product backlog consisting of epics, features, and stories• Product Backlog |
| 2. Sequence Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kanban Board (or similar)• Dependencies for sprints can be captured in the schedule |
| 3. Assign Resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kanban Board (or similar)• Small teams of 5-9 people• Scrum master coaching• Training in Agile method |
| 4. Establish Durations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sprint durations consistent and between 1-3 weeks |
| 5. Ensure Horizontal and Vertical Traceability | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vertical<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Roadmap○ Product Backlog (Themes, epics, features, stories)○ Burn down / burn up charts• Horizontal<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Kanban Board (or similar)○ Releases included in Program Schedule |

GAO Expert Meeting

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GAO Schedule Guide Agile Appendix



| Best Practice | Agile Artifacts & Documentation |
|--|--|
| 6. Ensure the Critical Path is Valid | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Releases included in Program Schedule |
| 7. Ensure that Total Float is Valid | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May also have Hardening sprints or catch up sprints for Unfinished work |
| 8. Conducting a Schedule Risk Analysis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iteration 0 planning Sprint Planning Sessions Uncertainty regarding number of sprints, releases and velocity Retrospectives |
| 9. Updating the Schedule Using Actual Progress and Logic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Releases included in Program Schedule Daily stand up meetings Velocity metrics Burn up/Burn down charts quantifiable back up data for schedule progress Kanban board |
| 10. Maintaining a Baseline Schedule | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roadmap becomes baseline from which to measure variances Demonstration to stakeholders Retrospective |

References



- Measuring Integrated Progress on Agile Software Development Projects by Tamara Sulaiman, PMP, CST, SolutionsIQ and Hubert Smits, CST, Rally Software
- AgileEVM – Earned Value Management in Scrum Projects by Tamara Sulaiman, PMP, CSM and Brent Barton, CSM, CST and Thomas Blackburn, PMP, CSM SolutionsIQ SolutionsIQ InfoTech, Inc.
- Systems Engineering for Software Intensive Projects Using Agile Methods, Rosser, Larri; Marbach, Phyllis; Osvalds, Gundars; Lempia, David; International Council on Systems Engineering IS14 Conference, Las Vegas NV July 2014.
- Principles for Agile Development, Marbach, Phyllis; Rosser, Larri; Osvalds, Gundars; Lempia, David; International Council on Systems Engineering IS15 Conference, Seattle WA, July 2015.
- www.gao.org
- An Industry Practice Guide for Agile on Earned Value Management Programs, National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA), Integrated Program Management Division (IPDM), March 31, 2017

Now do you agree with this statement?



- If a project is using agile practices they can apply Earned Value Management (EVM) in reporting progress against their plans.