

SCRUM



Scrum is not a methodology.

Scrum does not provide answers to building software faster

Scrum is a framework within which the game of product development is played.

The team plays. Scrum makes everything visible.

The team gets to continuously improve itself.

# Introduction to Scrum

*Scrum doesn't engender excellence.  
It exposes incompetence*

"The problem we face has nothing to do with process and technology, but with people.

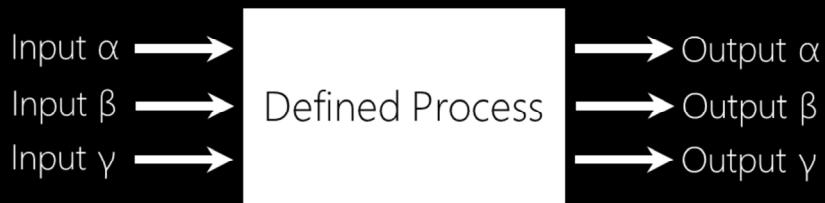
Scrum and Agile are based on the hypothesis that there is no meta-solution for software development. Just a framework within which we will be empirical – inspect and adapt.

This is very frustrating to those looking for procedures and final answers."

- Ken Schwaber

# Defined Processes

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Assuming every step is understood, a given well-defined set of inputs produces the same set of outputs every time.  
Predictability is key.

Every task must be completely and unambiguously understood

Inputs are completely and unambiguously defined

When given a well-defined set of inputs, the same outputs are generated every time.

Simple processes fall under this category

E.g. Toaster, Opening a lock with a key, clothes dryer, etc

# Is Software Development More Like Ballet or Hockey?



**defined**



**agile**

# Defined vs. Agile



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# One is Agile, other is not

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**Exploration Drilling  
(Adaptation)**



**Production Drilling  
(Optimization)**





Predictive



Agile

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## Predictive vs. Agile

# Fruit Cake vs Shower knob

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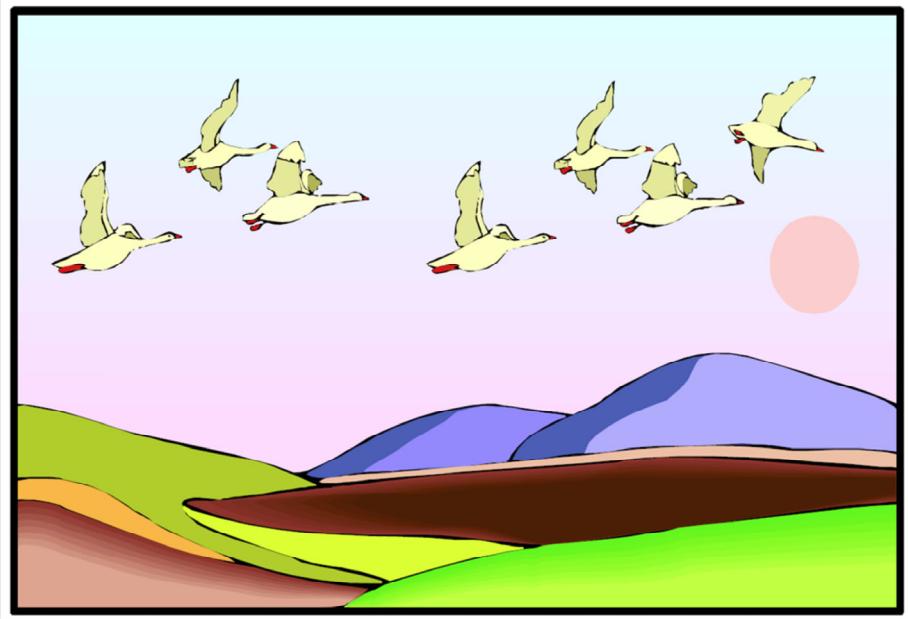


Empirical

Defined



# Empirical Process



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Geese moving from Canada to some warm place e.g. Florida during winter.  
Maybe they will stop at California or Texas.

Other examples of Empirical process:

- Training,
- Having a party
- Ant colony or Bee hive
- A crowd going on a picnic or sporting event.
- A family preparing, eating and cleaning up.

# Scrum is a Disciplined Management Methodology

- Wrapper for existing engineering practices
- Maximizes ROI, but doesn't change I
- Scrum works with XP and any other engineering practice you care to entertain



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The second point is not obvious if you weren't at the presentation.

"ROI = (Gain – Cost) / Cost" in a given period of time

The complete thought is that while it maximizes your return on investment in software development, it doesn't actually change your investment. In other words, it can't help you if your goal is to hire unskilled programmers and hope that a few so-called "architects" plus a methodology will somehow constrain your team into delivering something.

Scrum maximizes the value from your investment, but it's still important to invest.

# Common Examples of Uncertainty and Change

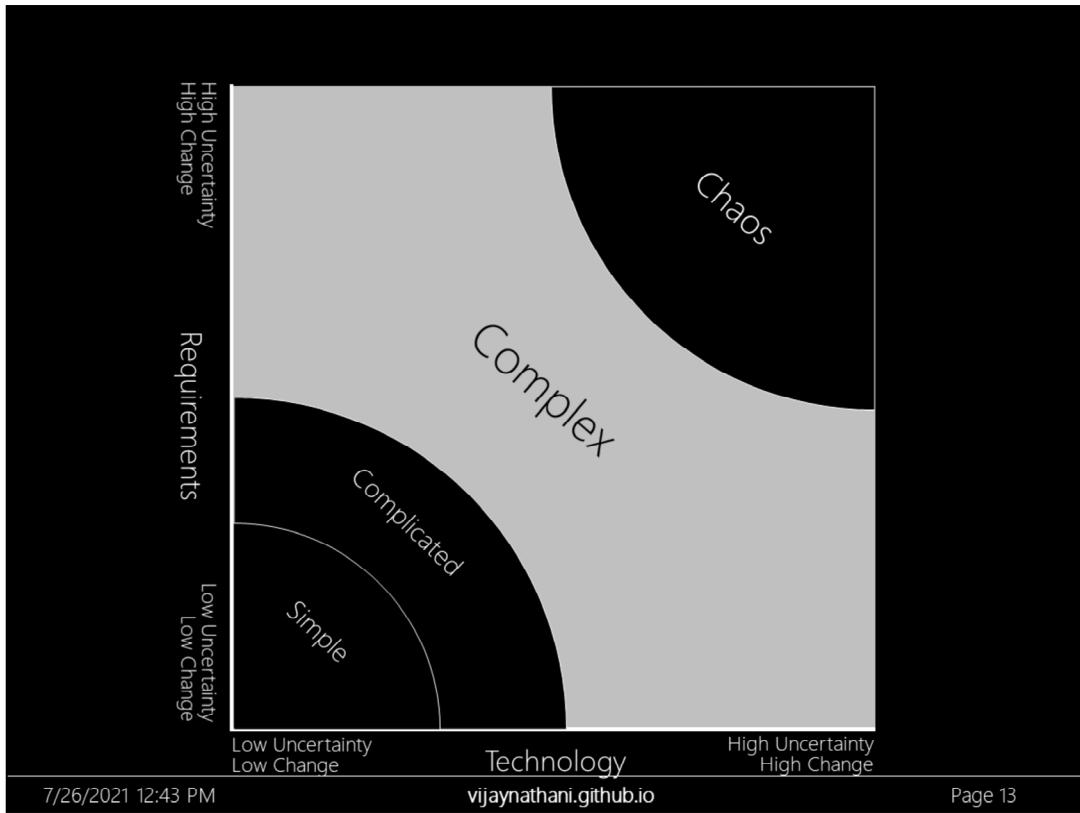
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- **Uncertainty**
  - I won't know if it's right until I see it
  - I don't know what will go wrong
  - We don't know what the competition will do
  - We don't know if the customers will like it
- **Change**
  - I just had a great new idea
  - The customer just changed his mind
  - The competition just changed his mind
  - Our CEO just changed her mind

Empirical

- Unpredictable
- Unrepeatable
- Not known in detail

Examples: Cooking, Driving, Gardening.



People can be on Z axis. Even people vary in their skills and behavior.

For simple projects – defined method works

For complicated/complex projects – empirical process is recommended.

# Empirical Processes

- "It is typical to adopt the defined (theoretical) modeling approach when the underlying mechanisms by which a process operates are reasonably well understood. When the process is too complicated for the defined approach, the empirical approach is the appropriate choice."

*Process Dynamics, Modeling, and Control,*  
Ogunnaike and Ray, Oxford University Press, 1992

- Translation into English: Inspect and Adapt



# Empirical Process Control

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- Visibility: those aspects of the process that affect the outcome must be visible to those controlling the process.
- Inspection: those aspects of the process that affect the outcome must be inspected frequently enough that unacceptable variances in the process can be detected.
- Adaptation: If the inspector determines from the inspection that one or more aspects of the process are outside acceptable limits and that the resulting product will be unacceptable, the inspector must adjust the process or the material being processed.

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## Empirical Process:

Effective software development is best implemented via an empirical rather than planned process;

Once organizational impediments are removed, a self organizing and self managing team will naturally deliver better software than would otherwise be the case

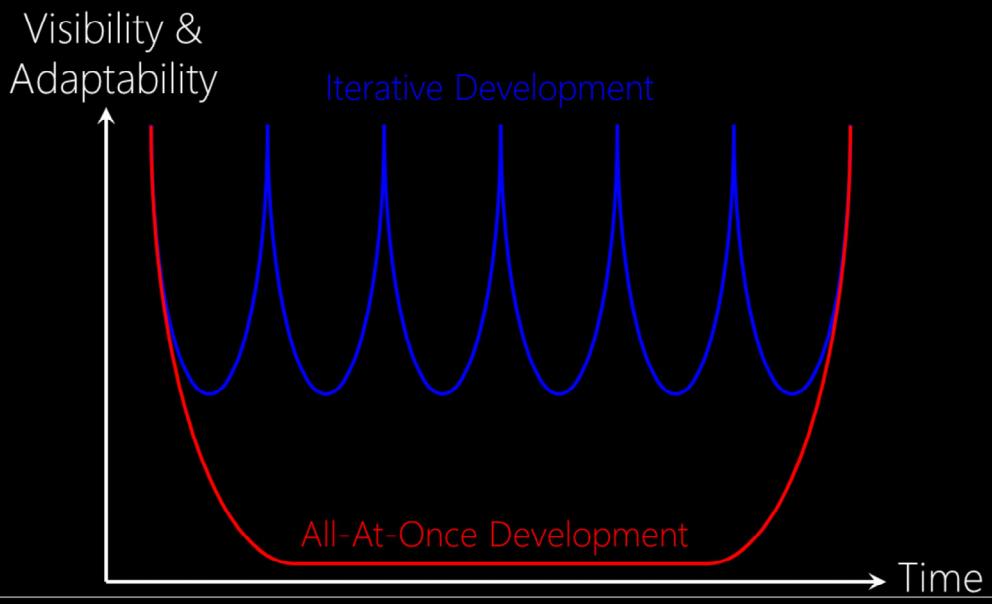
The premise that you can deliver the most valuable software within a prescribed time and budget, and yet you cannot definitively predict the exact functionality of what a team will deliver.

In Predictive processes, developers and project managers are forced to live a lie—they have to pretend that they can plan, predict, and deliver.

Requirements change. Adapt or die.

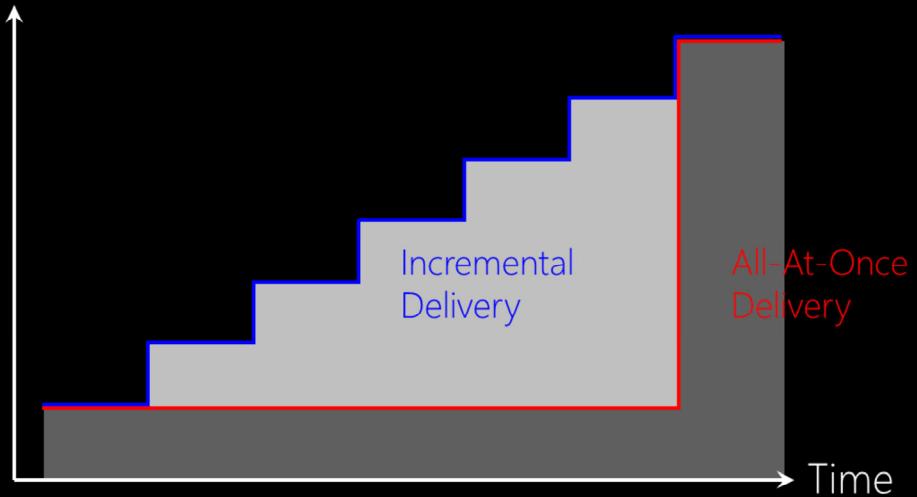
No plan survives contact with the enemy.

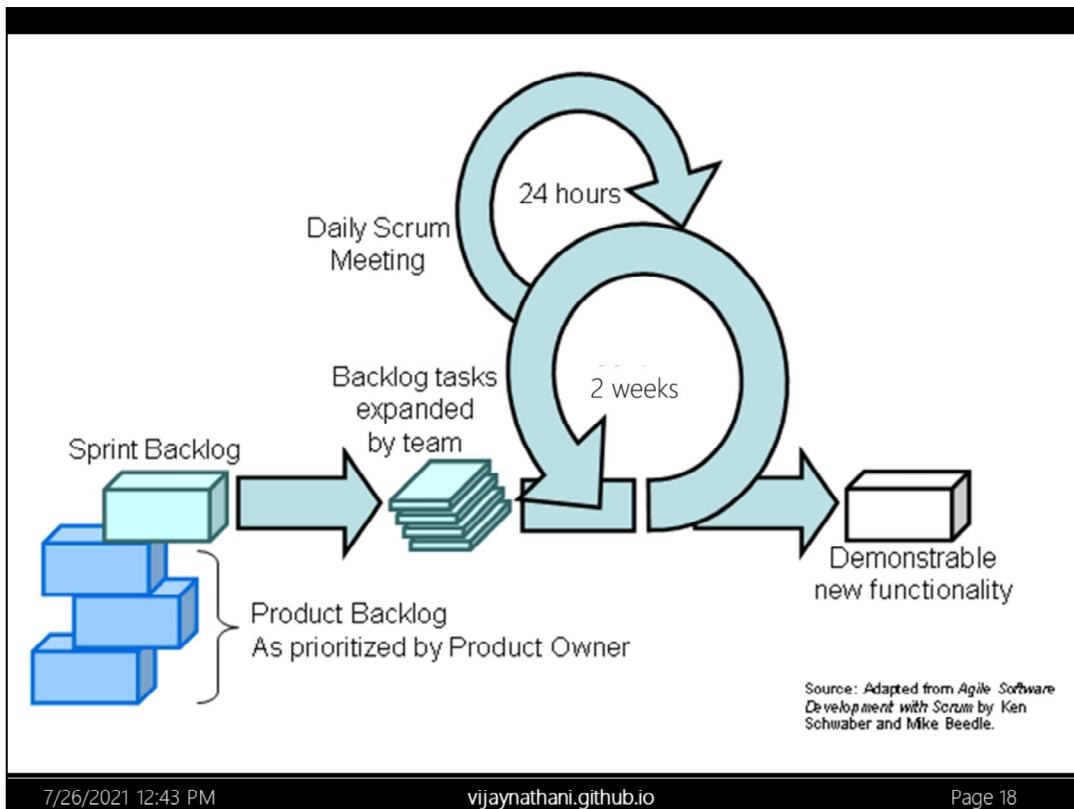
# Iterative Development



# Incremental Development

Value to Customer / ROI





# Who is using Scrum?

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- Independent Software Vendors (ISVs)
- Fortune 100 companies
- Small startups
- Internal development
- Contract development

# Who Is Using Scrum?

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Small startups to large corporations:

- Yahoo!
- Sun
- Cisco
- Nokia
- Philips
- BBC
- IBM
- US Federal Reserve
- SAP
- HP
- Motorola
- TransUnion
- Google
- Microsoft

Longer list at: [scrumalliance.pbwiki.com/Firms+Using+Scrum](http://scrumalliance.pbwiki.com/Firms+Using+Scrum)

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IBM & Microsoft (USA) are in the process of adopting Scrum.

Some case studies

<http://www.artima.com/forums/flat.jsp?forum=155&thread=241943>

# 100% Scrum

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

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, Phillips, Barclay Global Investors, Constant Contact, Wellogic, Innova solutions, Medco, Myspace, Johns Hopkins, Wachovia, IBS Interprit, Openview Venture Partners.

# What Is Scrum Being Used For?

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- US FDA-approved software for X-Rays, MRIs
- High availability systems (99.9999% uptime)
- Enterprise workflow systems
- Financial payment applications
- Large database applications
- Embedded systems
- ISO 9001 organizations
- CMMi Level 5 organizations
- Onshore / offshore development

# Is Scrum Scalable?

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- Typical Scrum team is 5-10 people
- Sutherland used Scrum in groups of 600+
- Mike Cohn used in groups 100+

Microsoft and Cisco, each has Scrum team of more than 200 people.

The largest project that has used scrum had 3500 people and lasted for 2.5 years

Eclipse has hundreds of developers spread all over the world. It is using agile process.

IBM has more than 30,000 employees. Some of its projects are agile. Some are not yet agile. It is in process of transition.

ibm.com uses Scrum and XP.

# Scrum Characteristics

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- One of the “agile processes”
- Self-organizing teams
- Product progresses in a series of “sprints”
- Requirements are captured as items in a list of “product backlog”
- No specific engineering practices prescribed
- Uses generative rules to create an agile environment for delivering projects

# What is Scrum?

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- There is a simple, Boolean test for whether a project is practicing Scrum
  - Scrum has specific roles
  - Scrum has specific practices
  - Scrum has specific artifacts

Everything else is not part of Scrum

# Scrum is a Mindset

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- Scrum is commitment-oriented.
- Scrum is results-oriented: projects produce increments of a shippable product, activities are time boxed, and ceremony is discouraged.
- Scrum is disciplined. There are practices you must follow on a specified time table.



# Scrum Roles

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- The Product Owner
- The Scrum Master
- The Team
- Everyone else is not part of Scrum



# Scrum Practices

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- The Sprint Planning Meeting
- The Sprint
- The Sprint Review Meeting
- The Sprint Retrospective
- The Daily Scrum
- All other practices are not part of Scrum

# Scrum Artifacts

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- The Product Backlog
- The Sprint Backlog
- The Sprint Burndown Chart
- The Product Increment
- Everything else is not part of Scrum

# For Empirical Process

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- Simple, clear purpose and principles give rise to complex, intelligent behavior.
- Complex rules and regulations give rise to simple, stupid behavior
- - (Hock 1994).

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PMBOK guide is hundreds of pages.

PMI PMP certification says:

1. Identify the requirements of the project
2. Establish objectives that can be achieved
3. Balance scope, cost and time
4. Satisfy everyone's needs

It says monitor and control the project.

Process groups: Initiating process group, Planning process group, Executing process group, Monitoring&Controlling process group, Closing process group.

44 processes: Develop project charter, Develop preliminary scope statement, Develop Project Management Plan, Risk identification, Qualitative Risk Analysis, Quantitative Risk Analysis, Risk response planning, Quality planning, Activity Duration Estimating, Direct and Manage work, Information Distribution, Scope control, Monitor and control project work, schedule control, close project ,etc.

Nine knowledge areas: Risk, Quality, Scope, Procurement, Communication, Time, Integration, Cost, HR.

For Time Management PMBOK says: Define activities, Sequence them, Estimate resources, Estimate duration, Schedule development, control Schedule.

It uses critical path, slack, resource leveling, leads and lags, schedule compression techniques

PMBOK says monitor costs by estimating, budgeting and controlling.

PMBOK says Quality is the measurement of how closely your product meets its requirements.

PMI has complex rules and regulations. It leads to the stupid behavior of cutting quality for the deadline.

Scrum is simple and lets people use their intelligence to decide the priorities. Because the process is transparent, Quality is rarely cut.