

PERFORCE

# Break Through Bottlenecks in Your CI Pipeline

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# Who We Are



**Robert Cowham**

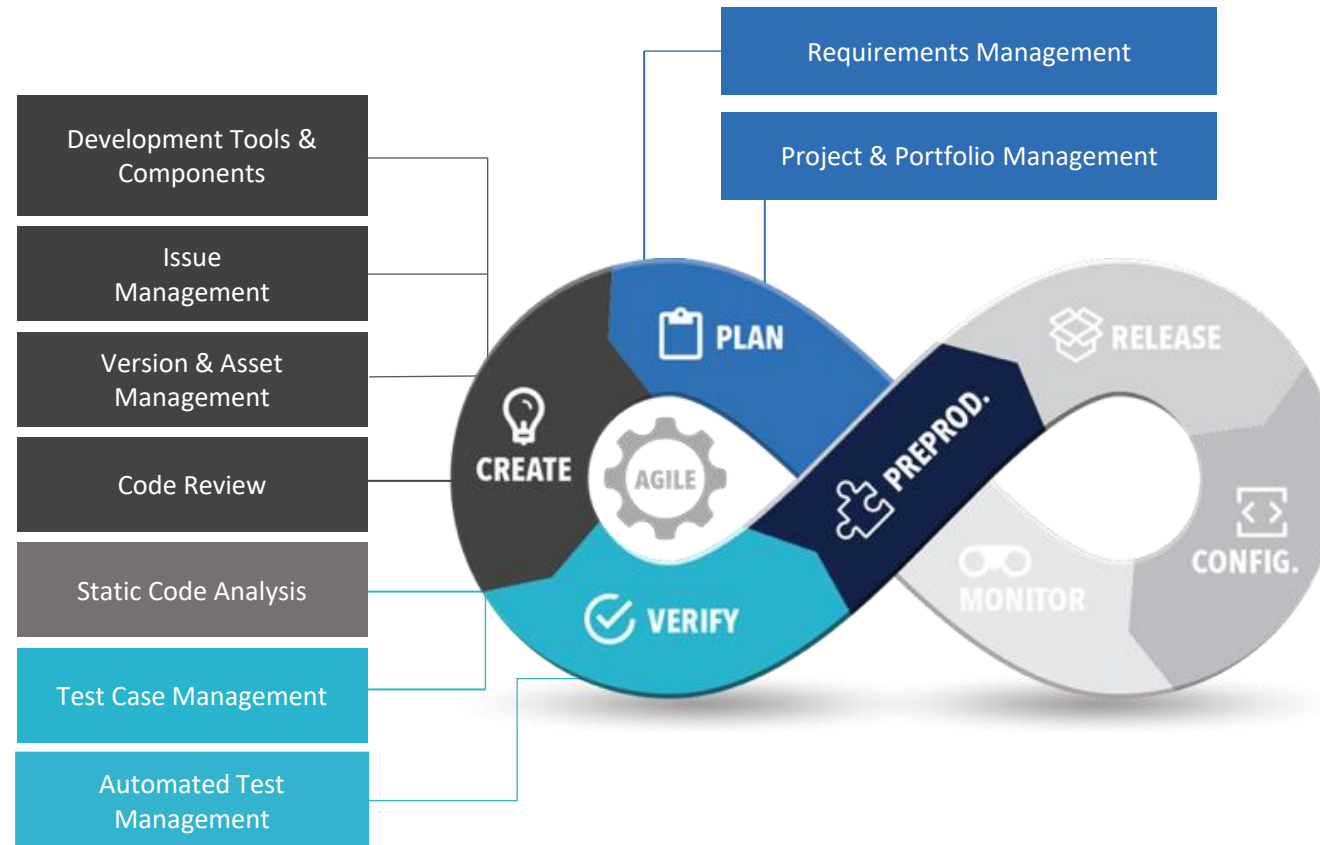
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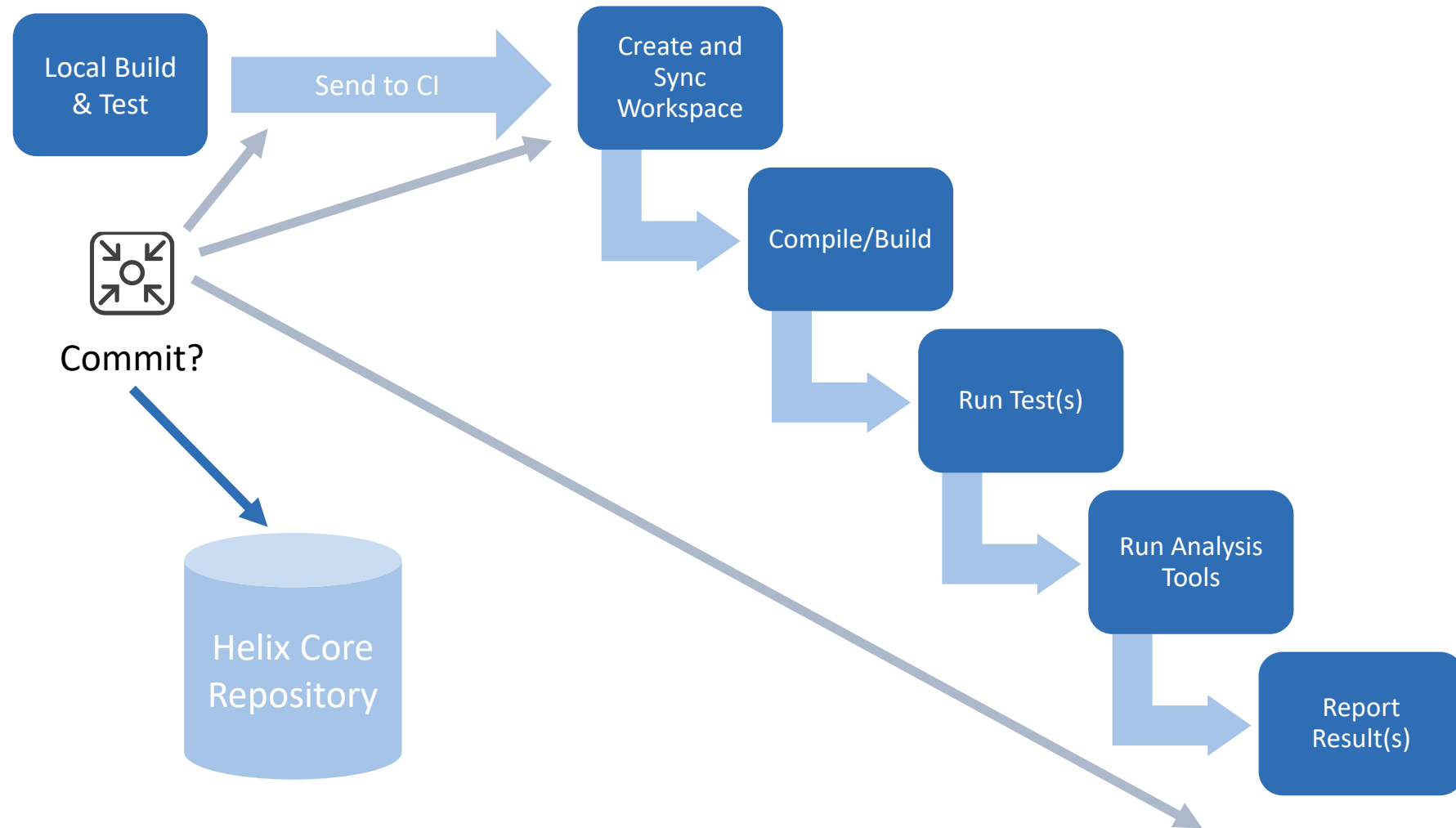
- 1 The CI Process
- 2 The Improvement Approach
- 3 Steps in the CI process
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# The CI Process

# Where Does CI Fit in the Overall Lifecycle?



# Typical CI Job



# Improvement Approach

# Continually Balancing Speed vs Quality

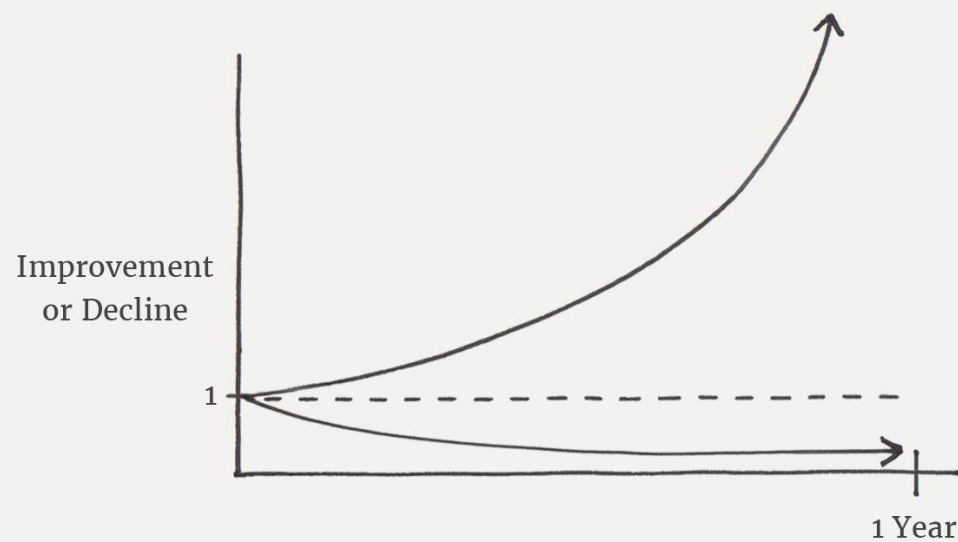


Achieving the  
“Goldilocks Point”



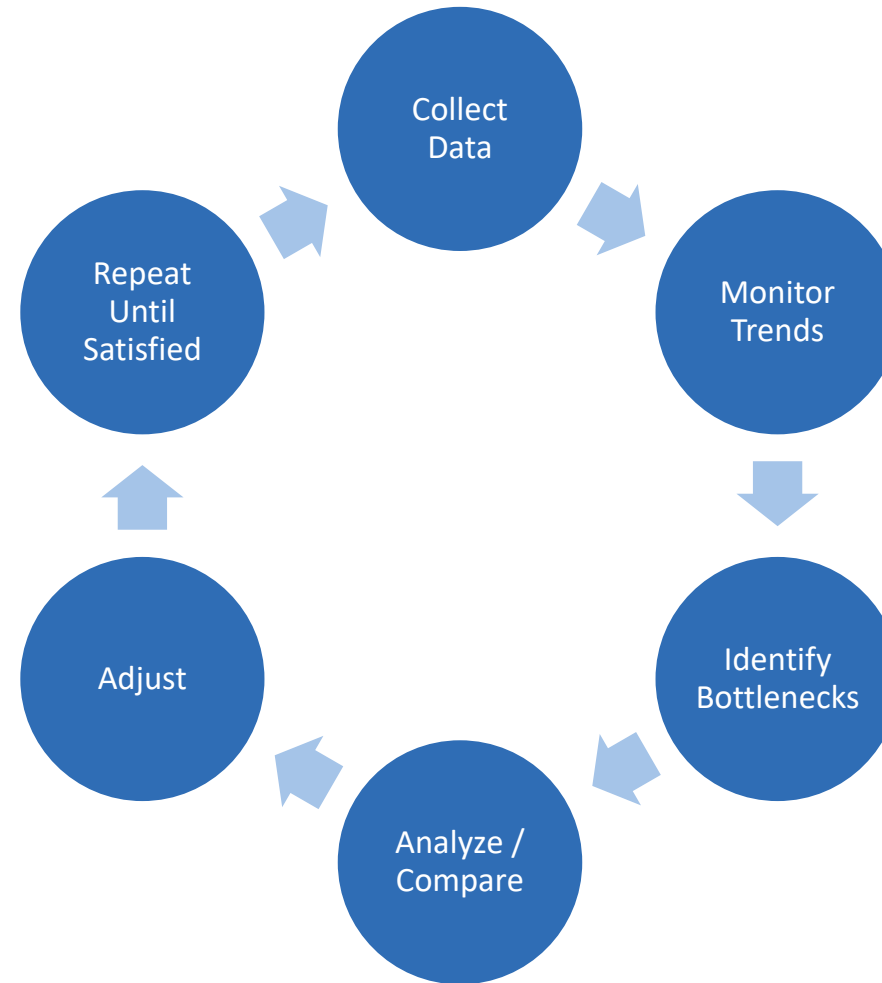
# The Power of Tiny Gains

1% better every day  $1.01^{365} = 37.78$   
1% worse every day  $0.99^{365} = 0.03$



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# Monitoring and Analysis



# Improving Steps in the CI Process

# Basic Tool Considerations



## Compilation/Build Speed

Incremental vs Full  
Parallelizable?



## IDE Integration vs. CI Server



## Cross Compilation?



## Version Compatibility/ Toolchain Dependencies

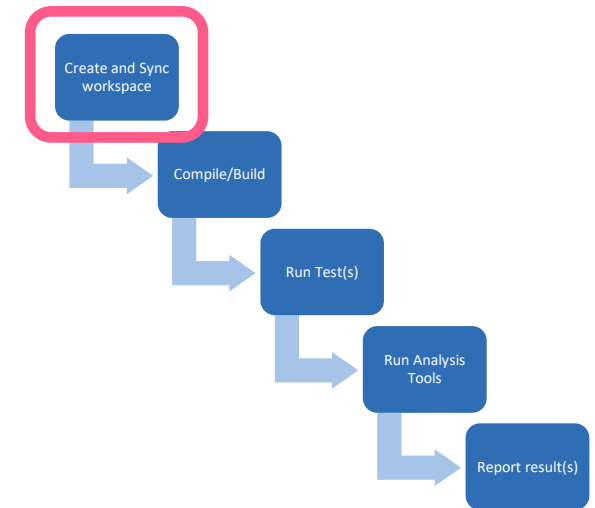
Embedded versions of tools can  
be behind state-of-the-art.



## Tool Support Timeframes

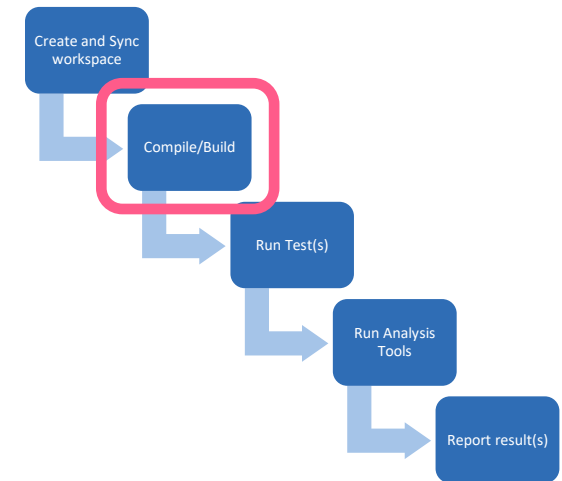
# Syncing Workspaces

- New workspace per job vs. re-use workspace?
  - Incremental vs. full sync.
- Full clone vs. partial clone.
- Local caching of repository.
- How easy is it to set up build farms?
  - Installation of build tools?
  - Any difficult dependencies for installation?



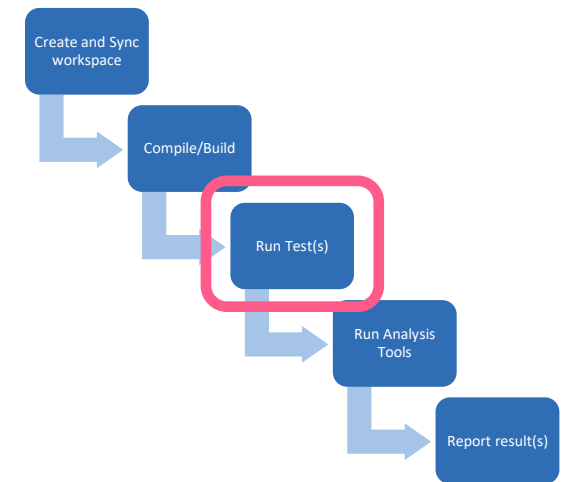
# CI Compile & Build

- More likely full rather than an incremental build.
- Guaranteed reproducible?
- Parallelizable?
- Tool installation per node:
  - Special hardware requirements?
- Cross compilation vs. native.



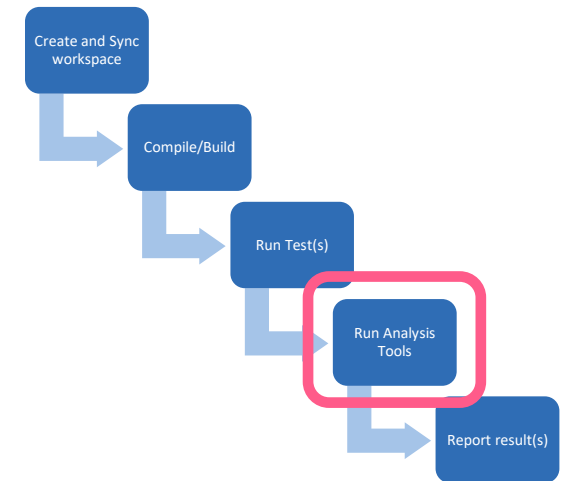
# Testing Approaches

- Automation vs Manual
  - Not necessarily easy to achieve for embedded.
  - May require re-design/re-architecting for easy testing.
- Unit Tests vs. Integration/Functional
  - What is required?
- Don't forget traceability requirements!
  - What information needs to be retained and how long for?



# Analysis Options

- Static Analysis
  - Quality, security, and compliance checks.
  - Benefits all software, but particularly embedded.
  - Can take a long time to perform.





# Analysis — Practical Long-Term Solutions

Analysis Algorithm Improvements

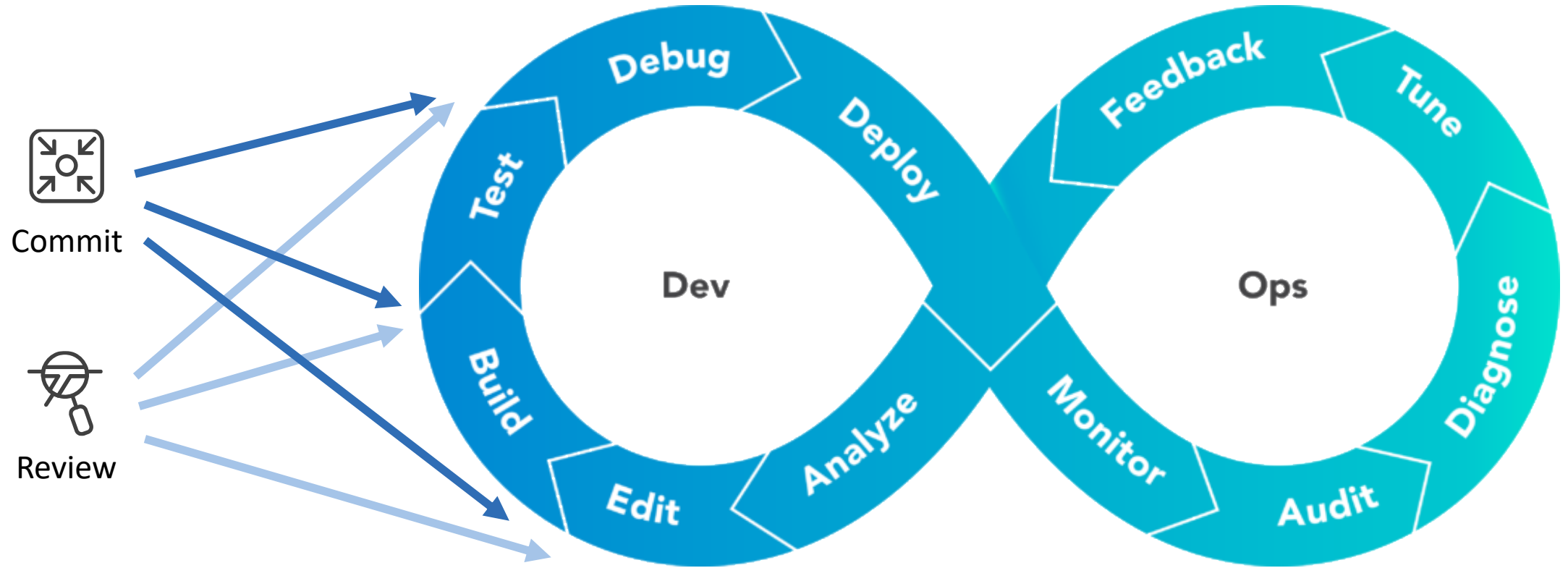
Calculate Less Information

Divide and Conquer the Codebase

Incremental Analysis

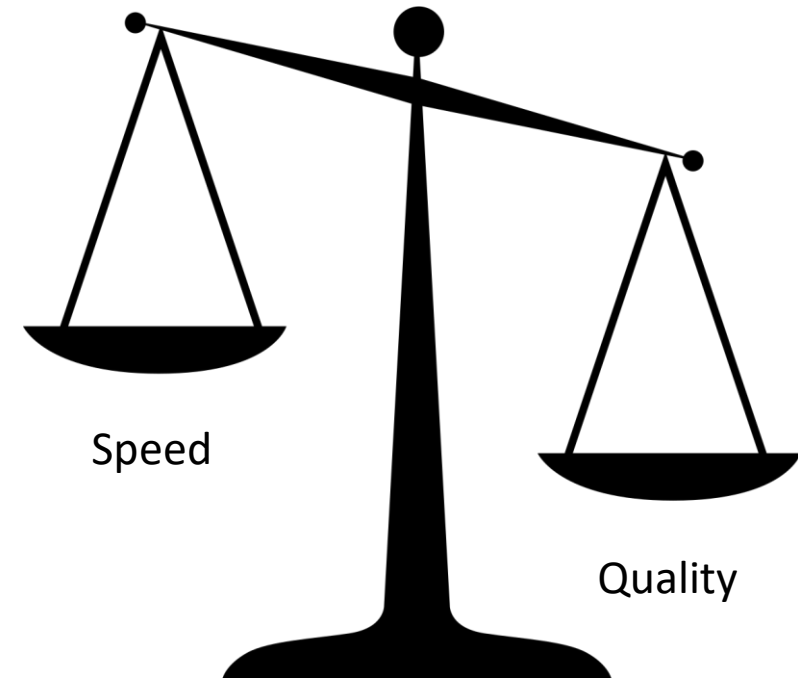
Parallel Analysis

# Code Review Process Models



# When to Review / When to Commit

- Pre-commit build (& test) / pre-commit review
  - Highest quality but slows developers down.
- Pre-commit build / post-commit review
  - Pragmatic balance between speed and quality.
  - Build doesn't get broken – not waiting for humans!
- Post-commit build / post-commit review
  - Risks breaking build, which impacts other team members.



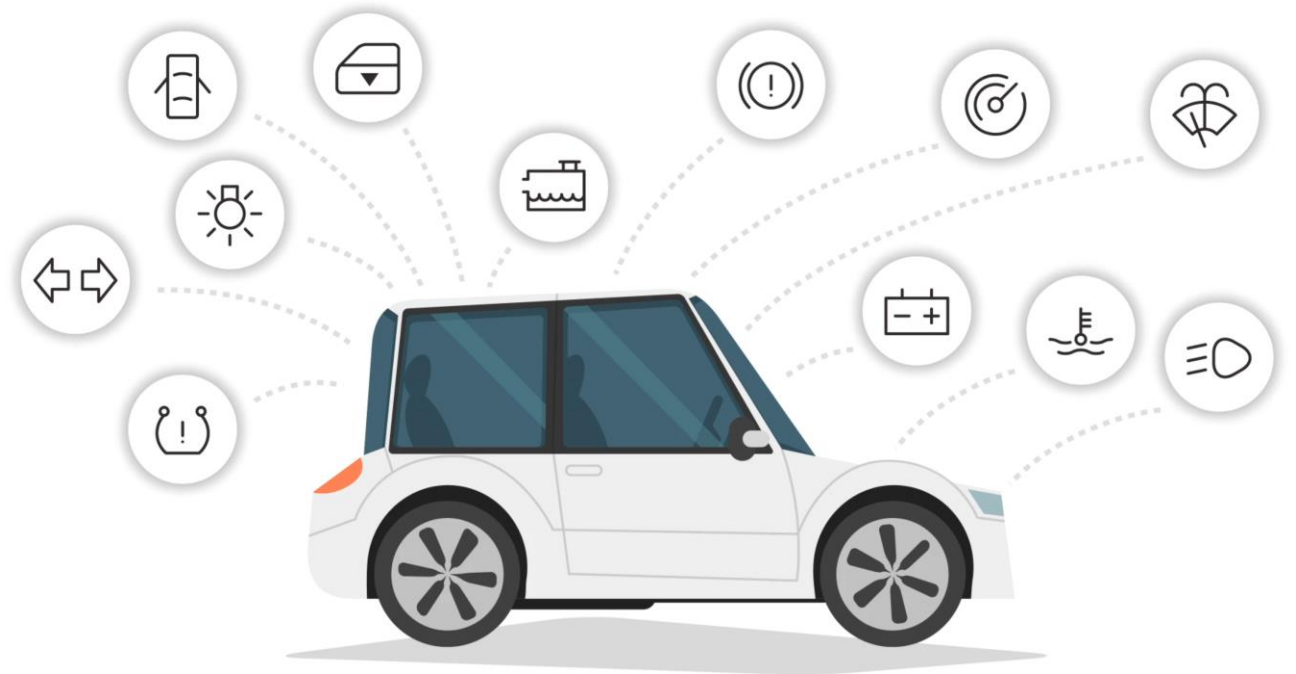
# Distributed @ Scale



# Case Study

# “Drivers” for Embedded Software Development

- Very big mixture of projects — some small, some very large.
- Component-based development, always starts from certain base layers.
- Regulations and industry standards defines most of the process (AUTOSAR, Automotive SPICE).
- Products and components stay around for many, many years.



# Summary

# Summary – Optimizing Your CI Pipeline

- Understand the options for your pipeline.
  - Tools etc.
- Collect data for monitoring.
- Continuously improve.
- Achieve Nirvana!



Q & A