

# Continuous Integration: Verification and Validation in an Agile Environment

**FAA Verification and Validation  
Summit 2014**

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# Where this talk is headed



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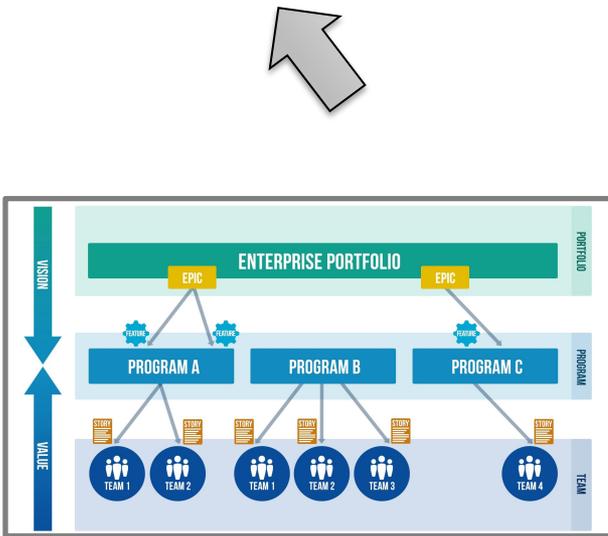
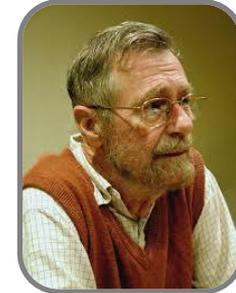
{P} C {Q}
-----
{ a > b }

begin max(int a, int
b)

    if a >= b
        return a
    else
        return b
    end

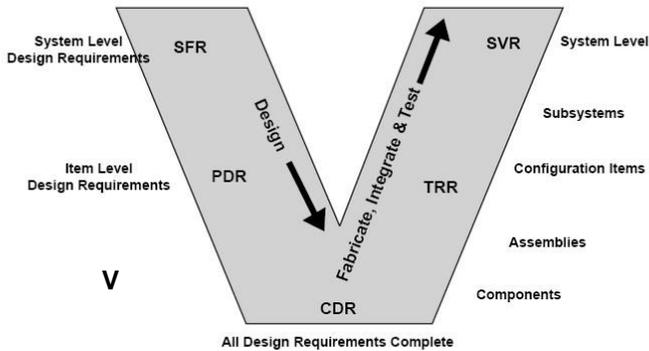
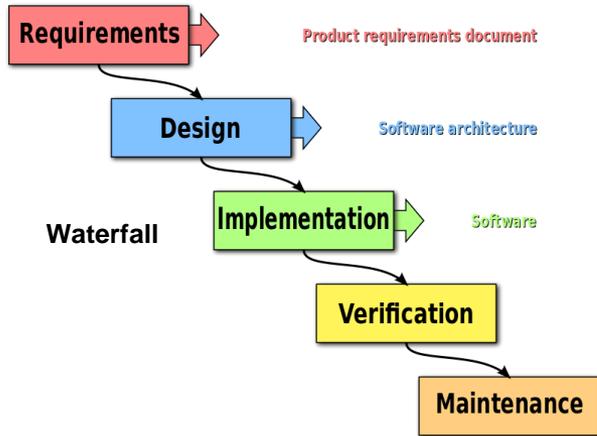
end

{ result == a }
    
```



# Some Context Setting on Development Models

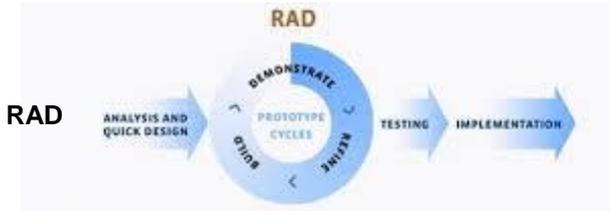
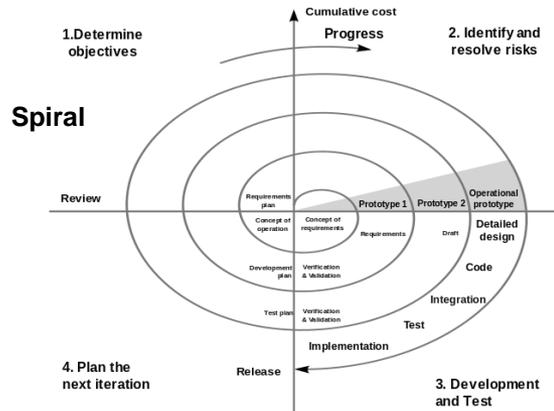
## Predictive Models



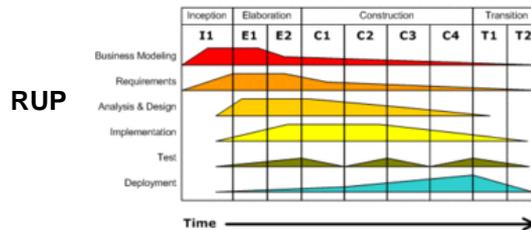
SFR = System Functional Review  
 PDR = Preliminary Design Review  
 CDR = Critical Design Review

TRR = Test Readiness Review  
 SVR = System Verification Review

## Iterative Models



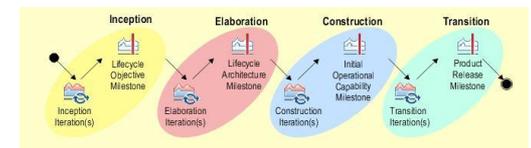
**Iterative Development**  
 Business value is delivered incrementally in time-boxed cross-discipline iterations.



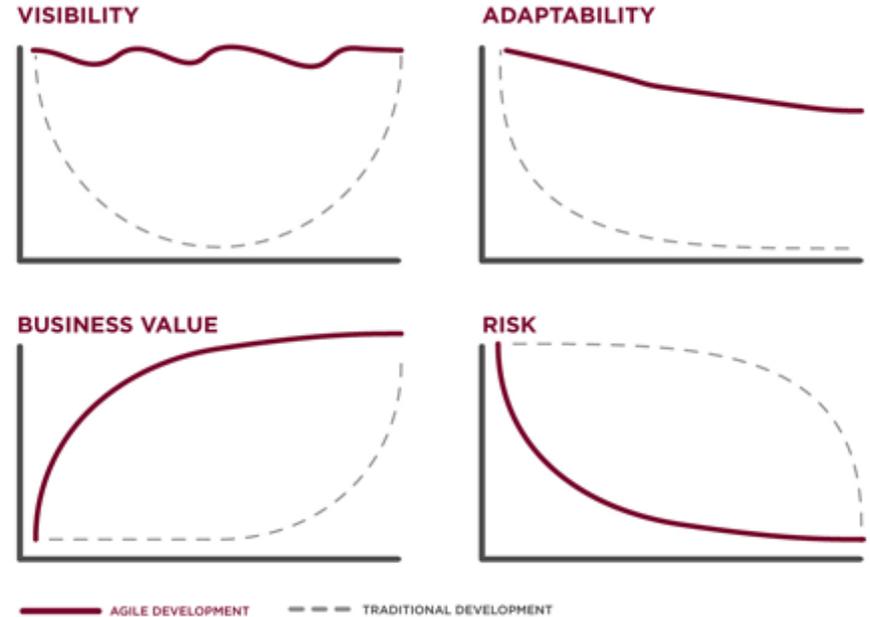
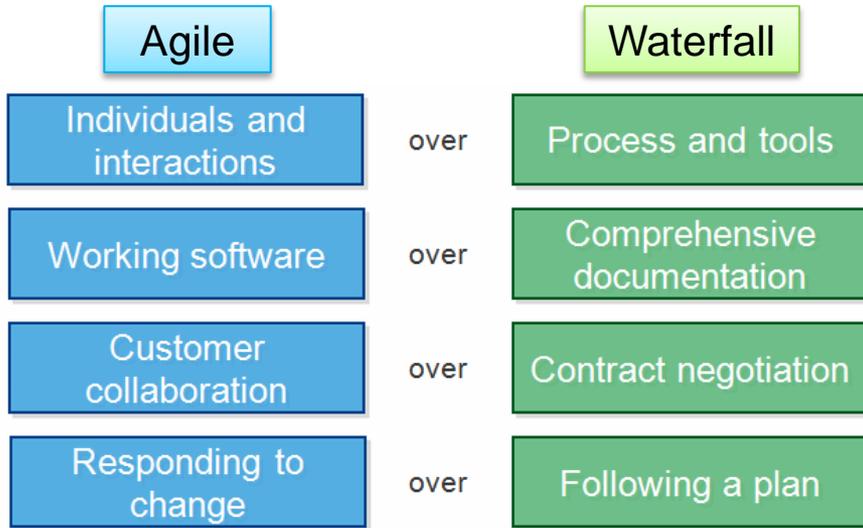
## Agile / Adaptive Models



## OpenUP



# Comparison of Waterfall, Spiral, and Agile



Agile	Waterfall
Iterative Planning	Upfront Disciplined Planning
Necessary Documentation	Comprehensive Documentation
Emerging Evolving Requirements	Fixed Requirements Upfront
Minimum Analysis & Design Needed	Comprehensive Analysis & Design
Changes Expected/Acceptable	Changes Unexpected/Discouraged
Empowered Teams	Command & Control
Soft Control	Structured Control Methods
Integrated & Flexible	Linear & Rigid

Agile*	Spiral*
Each increment delivers functioning software	Increments sometimes deliver prototypes
Primary focus on delivery of value to end user	Primary focus on risk management
1-4 week increments	6 mo – 2 yr increments
Suitable for both large and small projects	Typically best for large projects

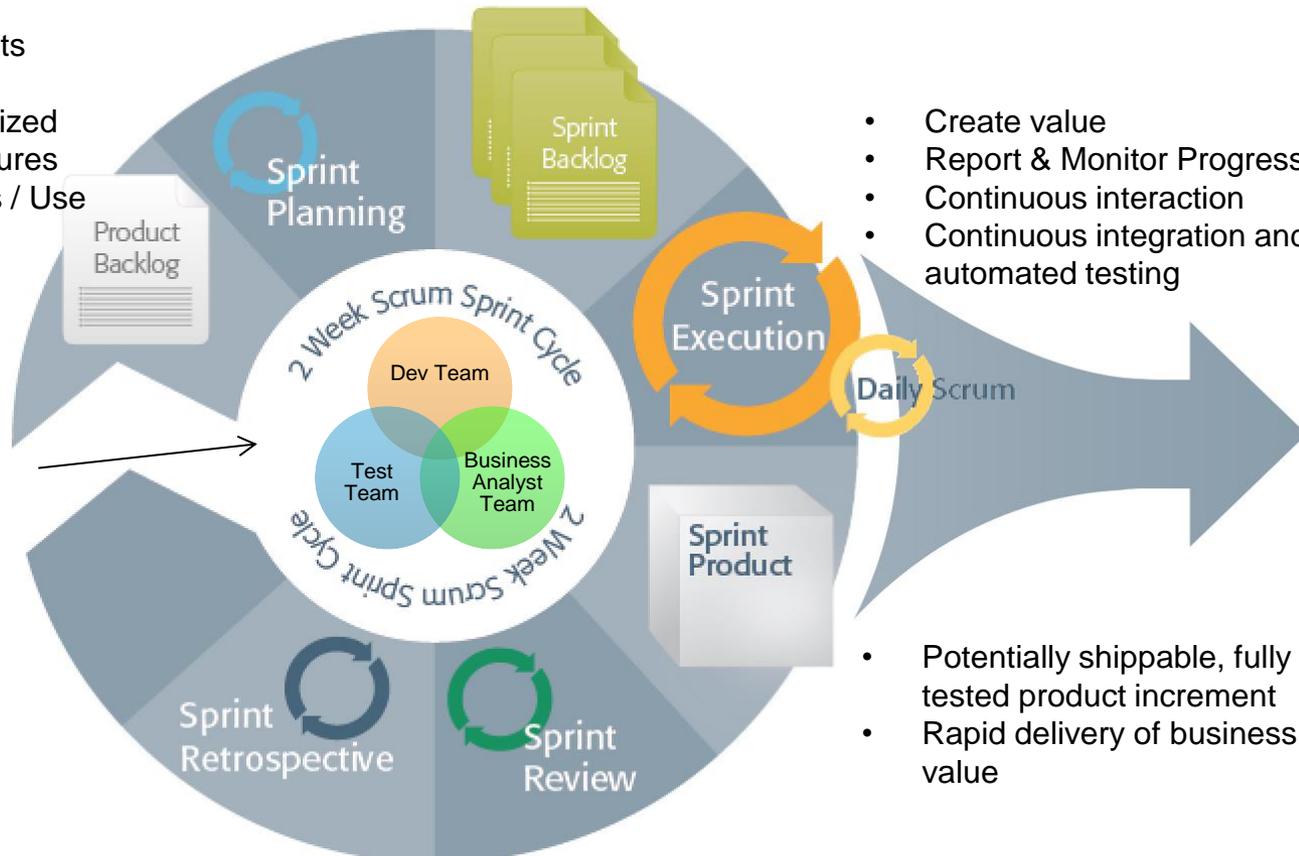
\*Comparison incites much debate, mileage can vary based on specific implementations

# Agile and Scrum: Team-level Processes, Tools, and Methods

- Review product backlog
- Establish Sprint goals
- Collaboratively estimate sprint backlog items
- Commit
- Features assigned to sprint
- Estimated by team
- Team Commitment



- Requirements Breakdown
- Client-prioritized product features
- User Stories / Use Cases



- Integrated sub-teams

- Create value
- Report & Monitor Progress
- Continuous interaction
- Continuous integration and automated testing
- Potentially shippable, fully tested product increment
- Rapid delivery of business value

- Demo features to team, client and stakeholders for feedback
- Continuous process improvement

# Testing and Quality Assurance

**Goal: To build, integrate, test and deploy application software with production level quality in a production-like environment every single day.**

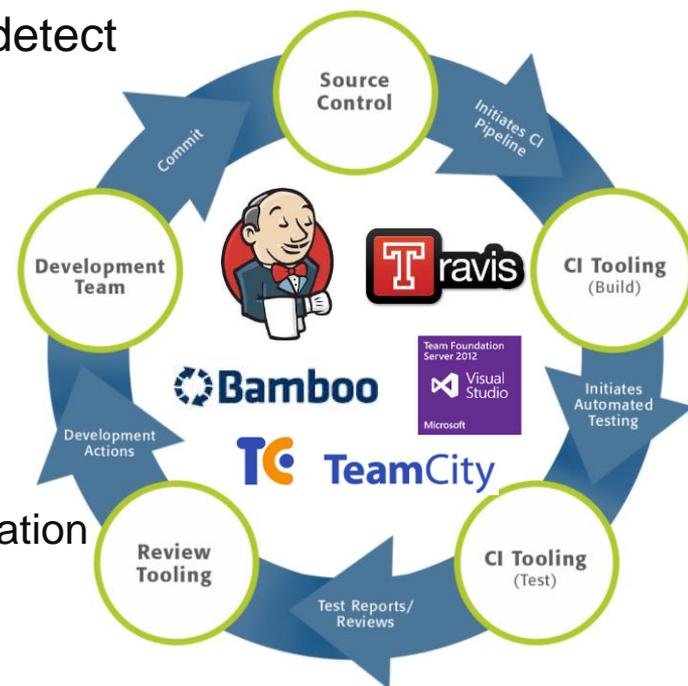
- QA occurs throughout each sprint/iteration
  - Catch defects earlier
  - Reduce rework
  - Avoid surprises
  - Manage feature scope
- Testers are key members of cross-functional teams
  - Definition of Done - Ensure increment produced at sprint end is potentially shippable
  - Acceptance Criteria - What Product Owner expects; what team must accomplish
- **Continuous Integration** and **Automated Testing** enable Agile delivery
  - Regression and system testing activities grow with each sprint in new product development
  - Automate testing where possible to allow manual testing where needed

# What is Continuous Integration (CI)?

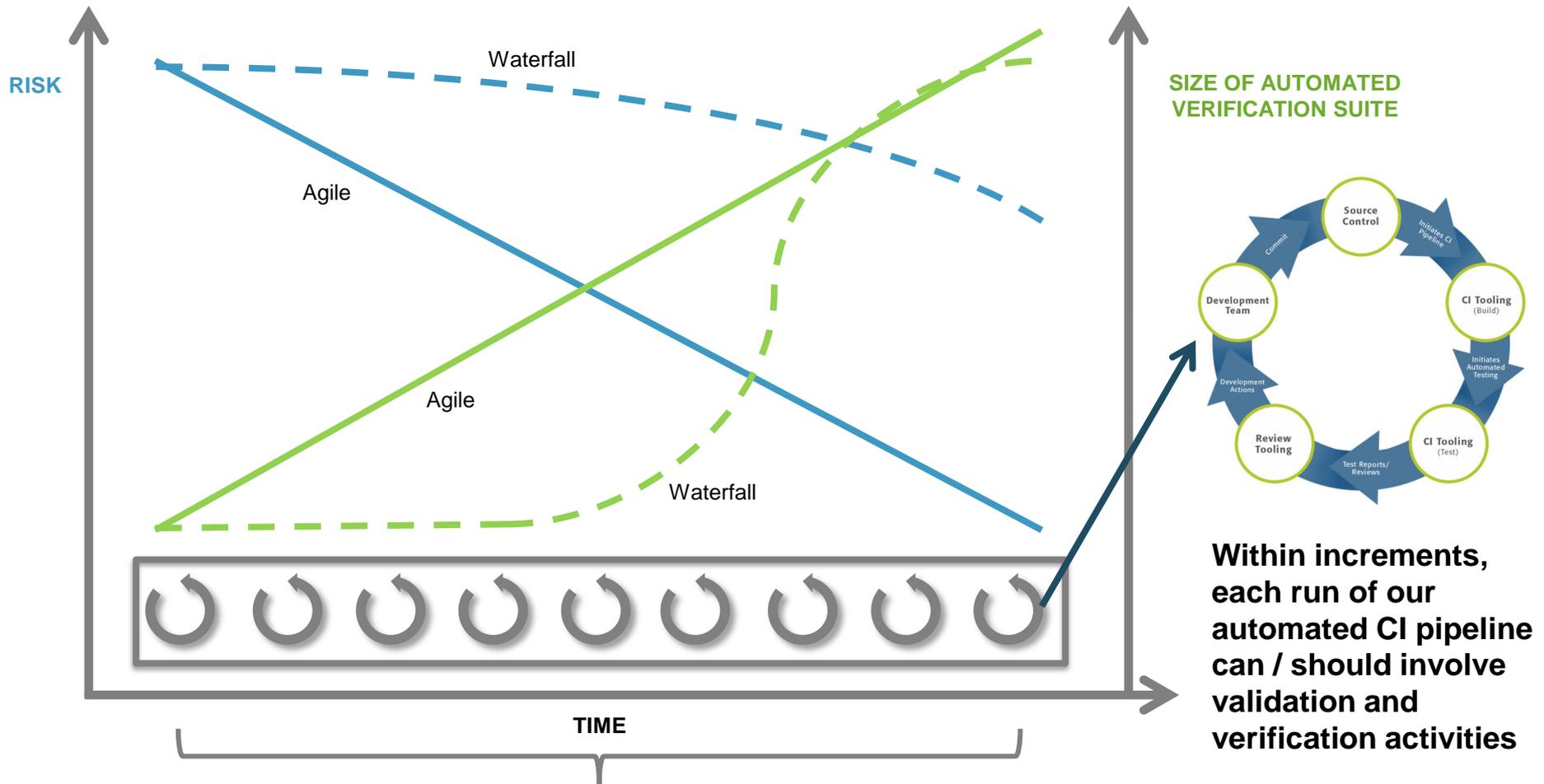
- **Continuous Integration (CI)** - A development practice that requires developers to integrate code into a shared repository several times a day. Each check-in is then verified by an automated build, allowing teams to detect problems early [[Fowler, 2006](#)].

- **Keys:**

- Maintain a single source repository
- Automate the build
- Make your build self-testing
- Everyone commits to the mainline every day\*
- Every commit should build the mainline on an integration machine\*
- Keep the build fast
- Test in a clone of the production environment
- Make it easy for anyone to get the latest executable
- Everyone can see what's happening



# Validation and Verification Opportunities in Agile



Each 2 week increment provides an opportunity for end user to assess whether we're "Building the right product"



# TDD / ATDD / BDD – Preemptive Verification and Validation

## Test Driven Development (TDD)

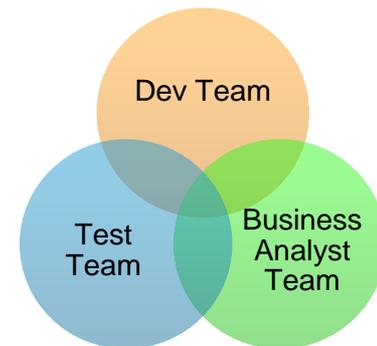
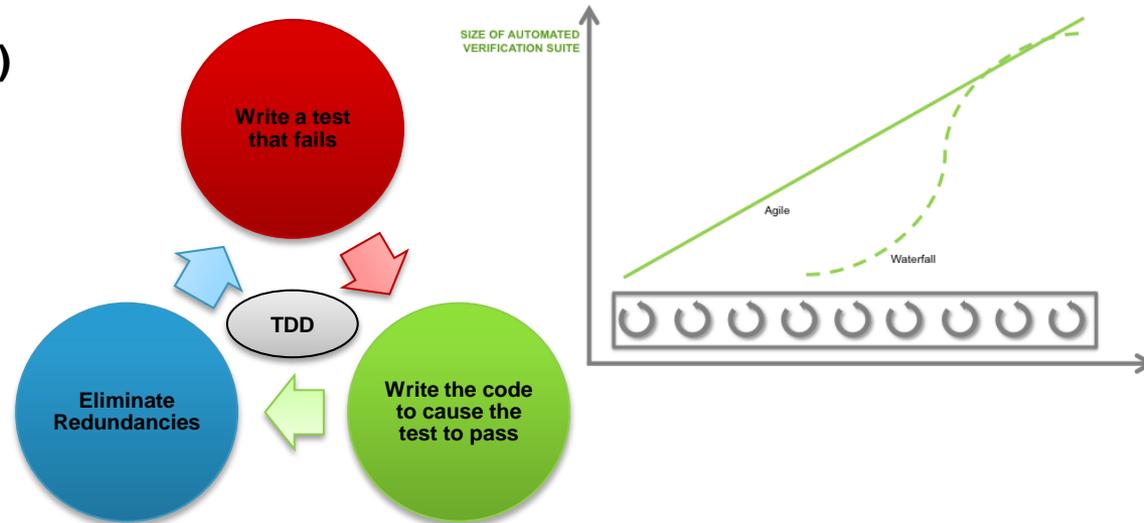
- Write tests first and establish failures
- Write minimal functionality to allow tests to pass
- Facilitates incremental, continuous growth of test suite

## Acceptance Test Driven Development (ATDD)

- Emphasizes developer-tester-business customer collaboration
  - Given (setup)
  - When (trigger)
  - Then (verification)

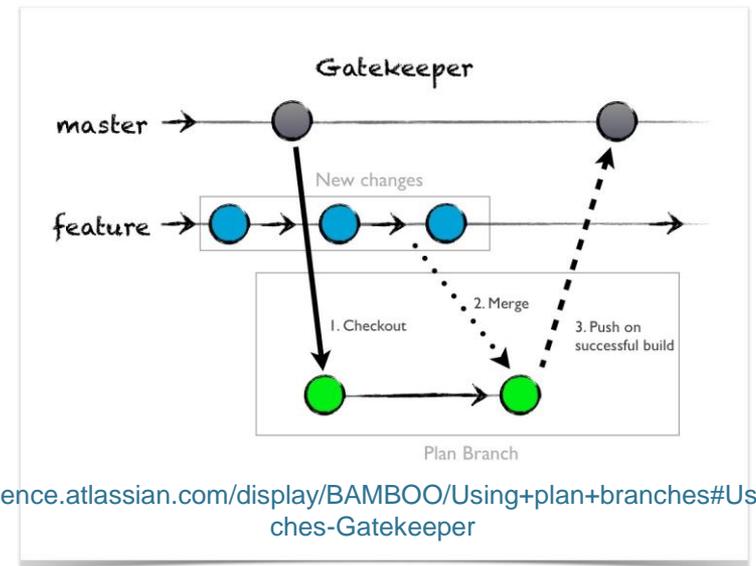
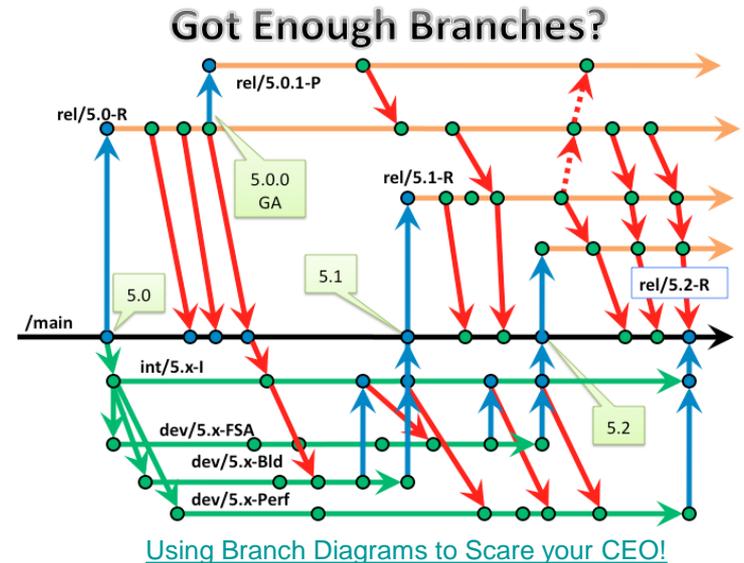
## Behavior Driven Development (BDD)

- Specify tests in business readable domain-specific language
- Generate automated tests stubs from plain text behavior



# Validated Merging – Maintaining Releaseability to Facilitate Delivery on Demand

- Develop on branches
- CI tooling executes full suite of automated testing and analysis
- Criteria is established that determines whether a changeset is considered healthy
  - **IF criteria is met**
    - CI tooling automatically merges branch into mainline
  - **ELSE**
    - CI tooling fails the build and the mainline is insulated from harmful changes
- Benefits
  - Maintains stability consistent with quality of your test / analysis suite
  - Prevents wasted time debugging non-problems in large and diverse teams
  - Mitigates risks associated with complex integrations



# Mission Criticality and Provable Correctness



Brooks

“No Silver Bullet”

**The principles of Continuous Integration are applicable no matter what Design Assurance Level (DAL) is required of the software you are building**

“Testing can show the presence of errors, but not their absence.”

“One can never guarantee that a proof is correct, the best one can say is: ‘I have not discovered any mistakes’”



Dijkstra

- Demonstrably “correct”
- Code behaves according to expectations given both valid and invalid input values, at least at the unit level
- Code complies with any relevant standards or guidelines
- Code satisfies basic non-functional requirements insofar as this can be validated using the tools normally available to programmers

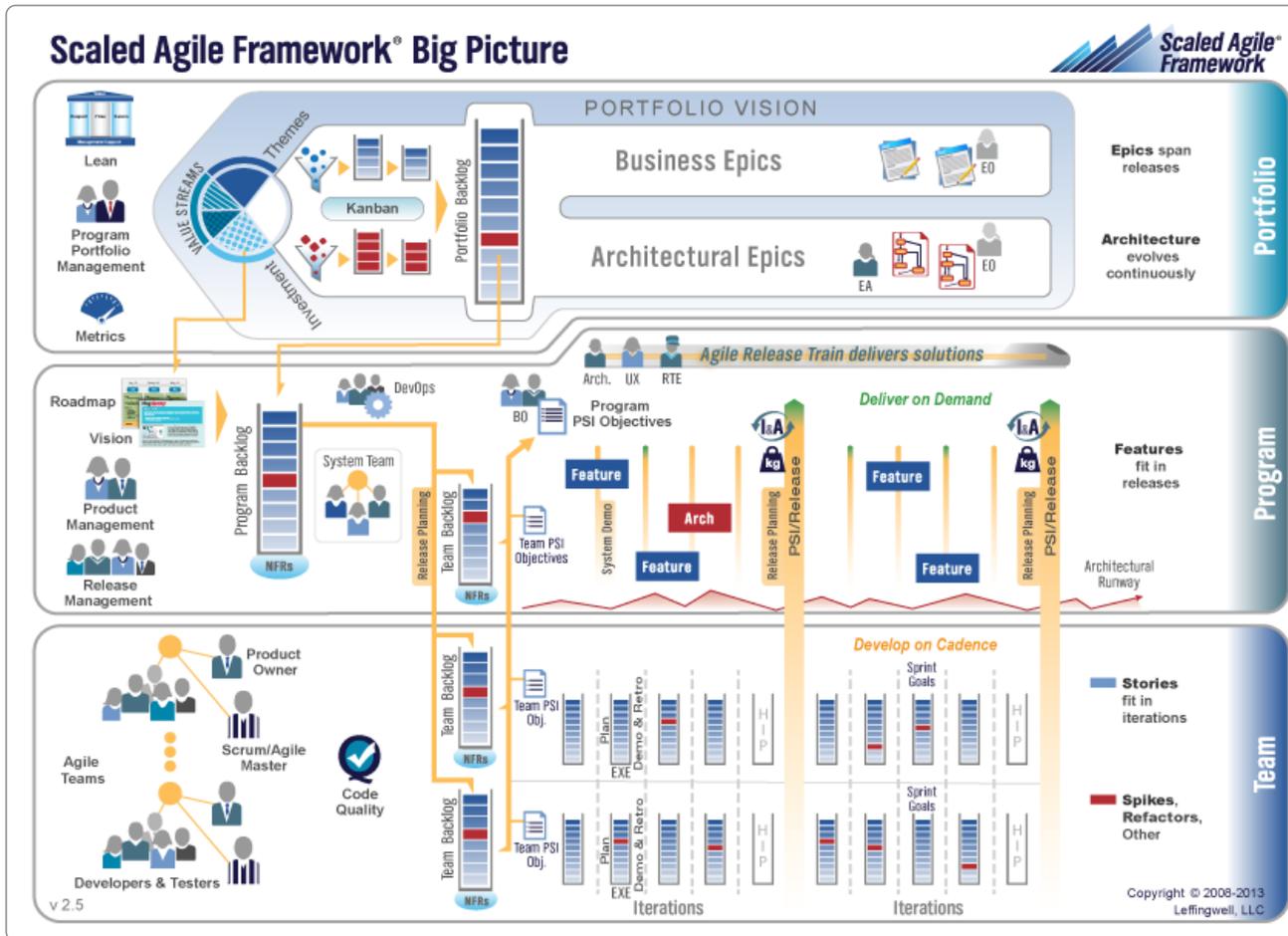
- Formal methods lite
- Run-time verification
- Automated test generation from formal specifications

- Formal methods
- Provably correct properties of specifications
- Provably correct implementations w.r.t specifications
- Model-based design, verification, validation, and code generation

<http://davenicolette.wordpress.com/2012/10/23/delivering-provably-correct-code/>

Increasing level of Criticality

# Scaling Agile – Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe)



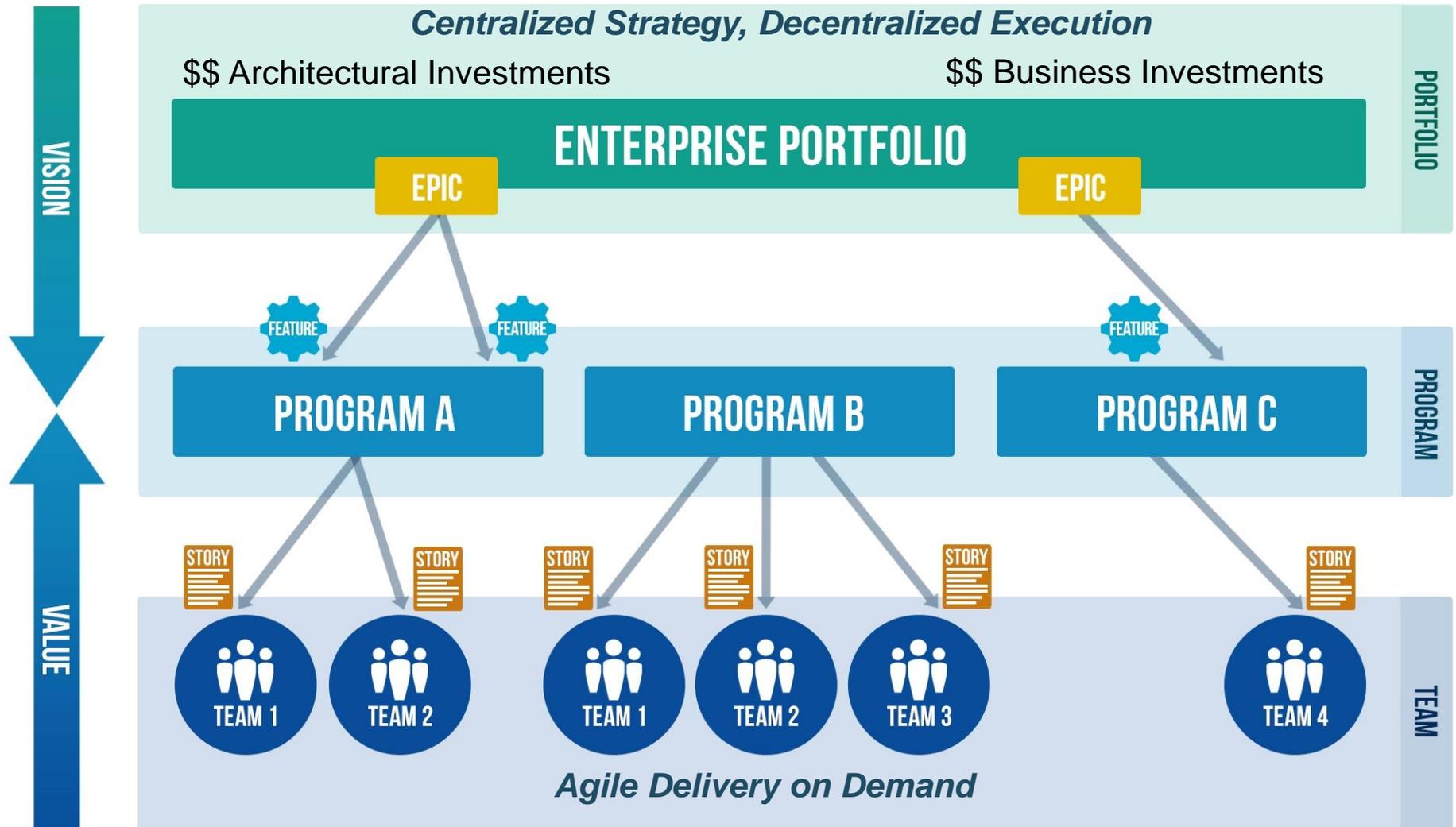
- ▶ Synchronizes alignment, collaboration, delivery
- ▶ Scales successfully to large numbers of teams
- ▶ Agile Release Train Size
  - ▶ 5-12 agile teams
  - ▶ 50-125 individuals planning, committing, and executing together

## Core values:

1. Code Quality
2. Program Execution
3. Alignment
4. Transparency

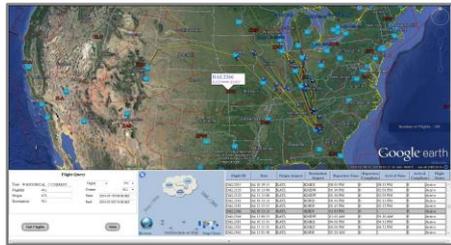
<http://ScaledAgileFramework.com>

# A Scaled Agile Portfolio Approach ≠ “Top Down”

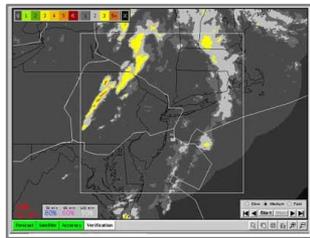


# How Scaled Agile Approaches Relate to Complex Systems

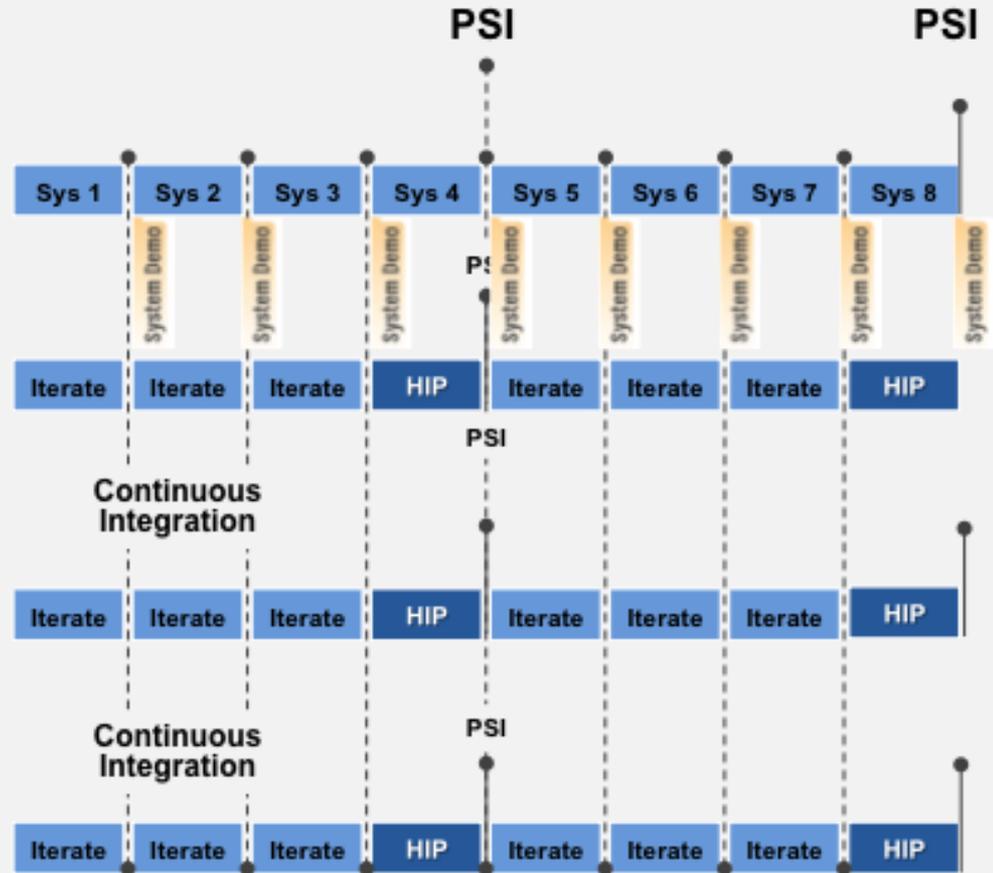
## An Oversimplified Hypothetical Related to SWIMS



SFDPS



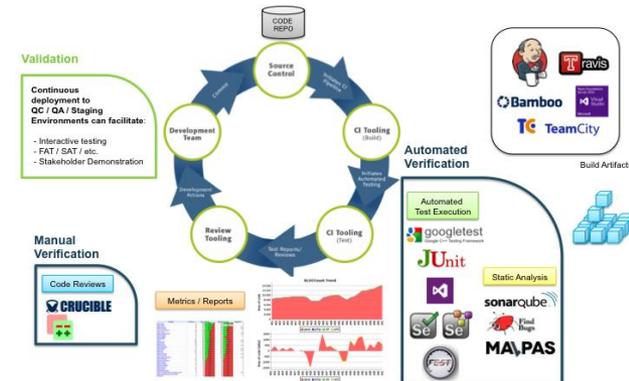
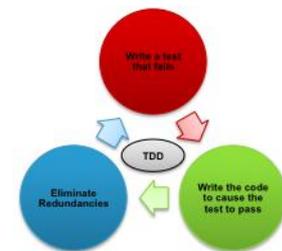
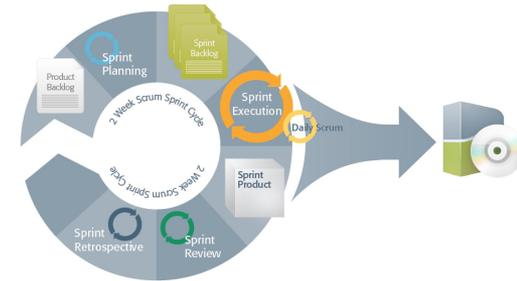
CIWS



# This probably isn't news...

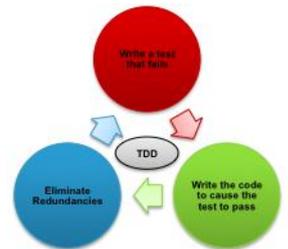
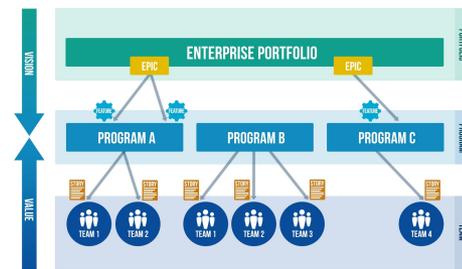
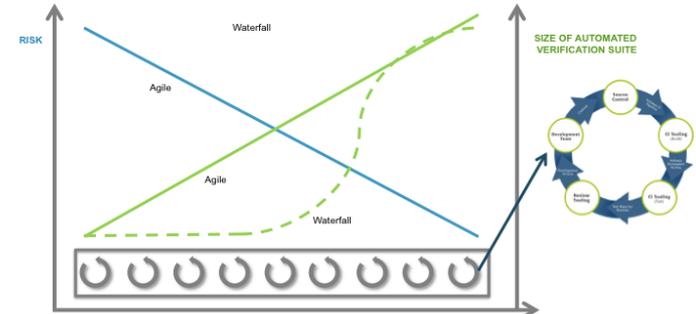
## From *Development, Validation, and Demonstration of Technologies for the Health and Usage Monitoring Systems Airborne- and Ground-Based Automated Testing and System Functionality Partition*, December 2009

- “Best practices (and the supporting tools) discussed in this report include short iterations, test-driven development, customer tests, documentation techniques, collective code ownership, and continuous integration”
- “Even highly structured processes and certifications such as Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI) (popular in aerospace settings) have found compatibility with agile methods”
- “DO-178B is clearly compatible with iterative methods.”
- “...iterative fashion would likely limit the overall cost of certification assessment and prevent the cost of incorporating requirement changes after certification”
- “TDD [Test-driven Development] is compatible with DO-178B.”
- “A static analysis tool can easily be added to an automated build system that executes both dynamic and static analysis tests before releasing compiled artifacts”
- “Continuous integration is the practice of rebuilding and testing an application frequently.”
- “Continuous integration allows a system to be built, tested, and packaged at moment's notice. As such, the most recent working system is always at hand.”
- “Within the context of DO-178B, an automated build tool enables the practice of continuous integration...it is the automated build tool that runs all unit and static analysis tests, performs automated acceptance testing, generates automated documentation, and builds the release executables.”



# This probably isn't news...

- From *FAA Test and Evaluation Process Guidelines*, April 2014
  - “Early testing is crucial.”
  - “Avoid last minute test procedure changes”
  - “A system is not truly tested until it is used by its target audience in an operational setting.”
  - “Encourage and facilitate communication and interaction between the FAA and the developers”
  - “Use an integrated test team approach”
  - “Air Traffic and Technical Operations test teams need to communicate.”
  - “Facilitate a team effort”
- From *FAA Test and Evaluation Handbook*, September 2013
  - “V&V is performed in varying degrees on a continuous basis by many entities involved in the acquisition.”



# References & Resources

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## Thank You

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