Sane software development



Carl Erickson, PhD Atomic Object LLC



State of our industry

2004 Standish Group study

30% total failure, cancelled

50% over budget

90% late

Chaos report, 1994

31% cancelled

53% more than 2x over budget



Status quo

"Our challenge is to get our software to the point that people expect it to work instead of expecting it to fail."

Jim Larus, leader of software quality project at Microsoft Research

MIT Technology Review, April 2003



The price we pay

NIST - industry losses

\$60 billion a year

Doesn't even count...

government

education

home

loss of life

Therac-25

Denver Airport

Ariane 5

USS Yorktown

FBI Virtual Case File



Successful software projects

Paid for itself per the business needs (ROI)

Met important deadlines

Produced software that

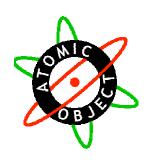
satisfies end users

is stable and reliable

performs acceptably

is extensible and maintainable

Left developers and managers happy



To the rescue?

HLL

Structured D/P

4GL

ΑI

00

Client/Server

Java

N Tier

Visual XXX

.NET

AOP

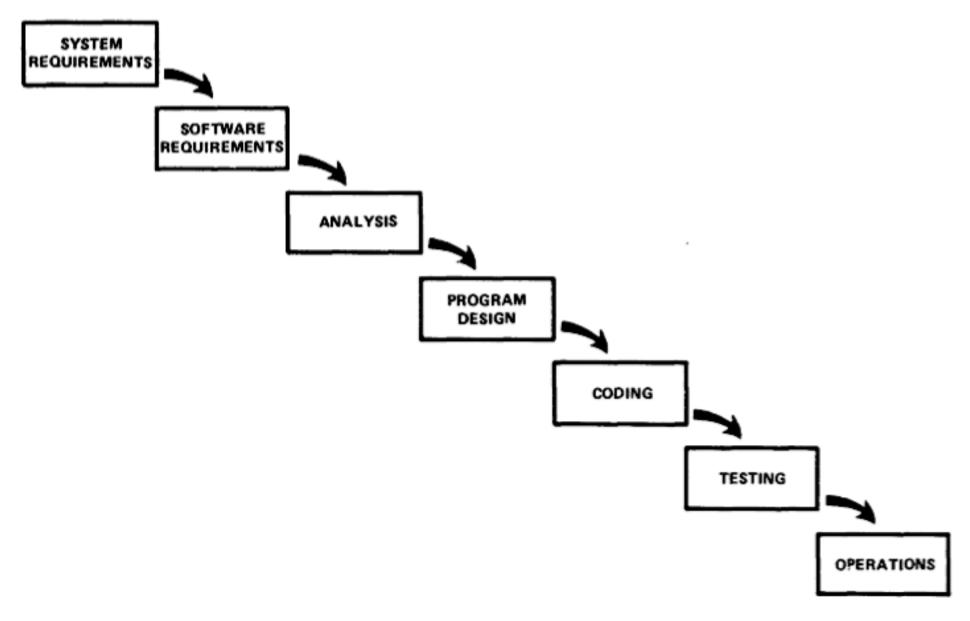


Figure 2. Implementation steps to develop a large computer program for delivery to a customer.



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

Winston Royce "Managing the Development of Large Software Systems" IEEE WESCON, August 1970

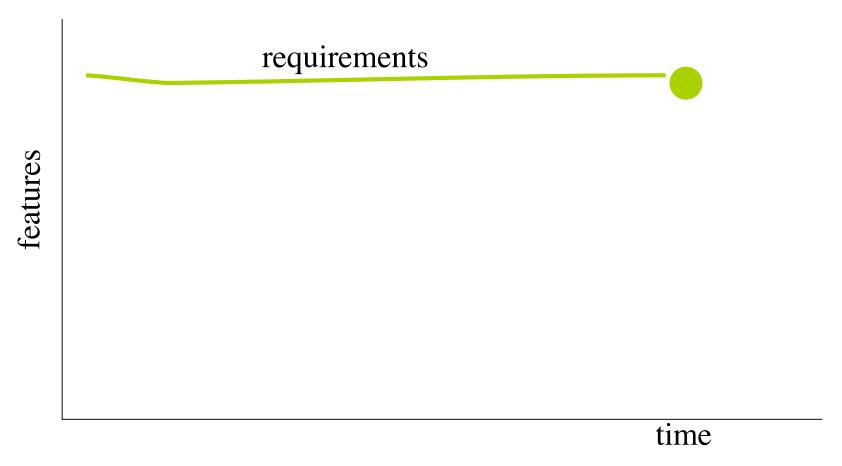


time

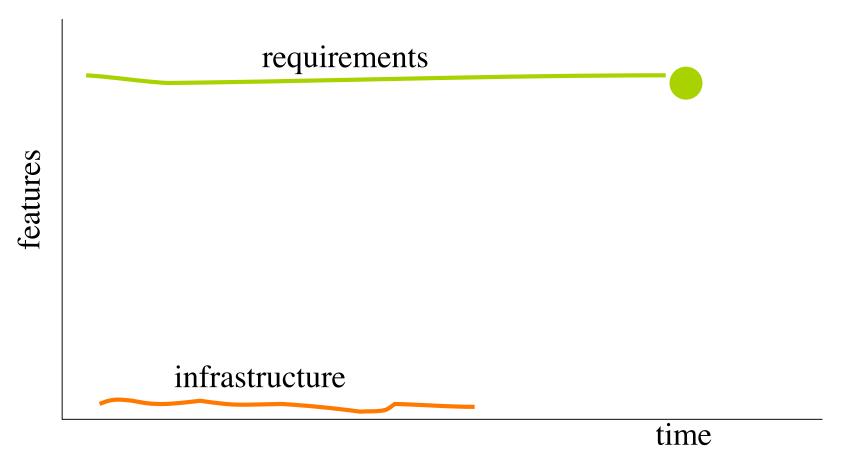
March 2005

Atomic Object LLC

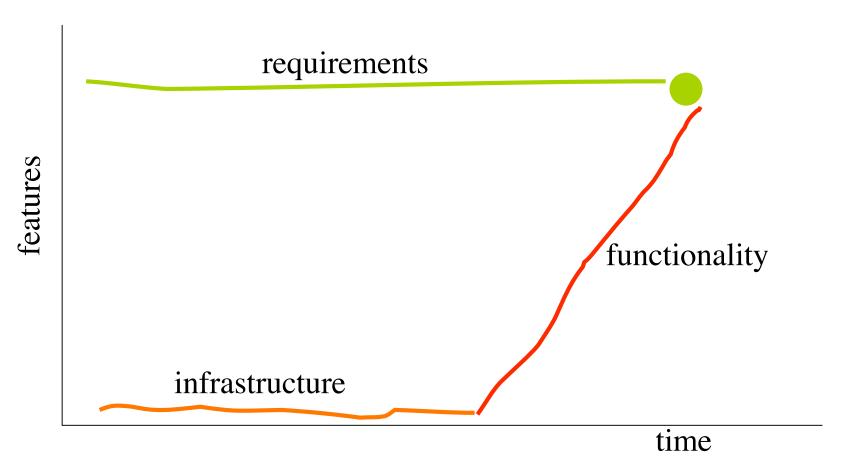




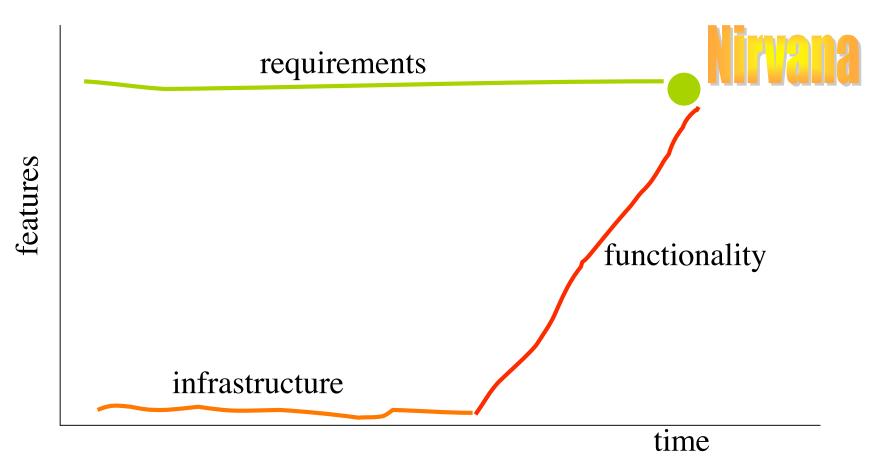




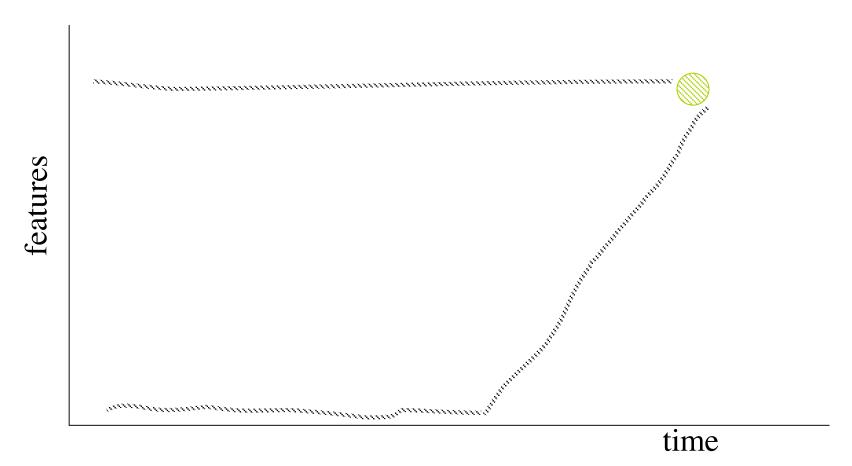




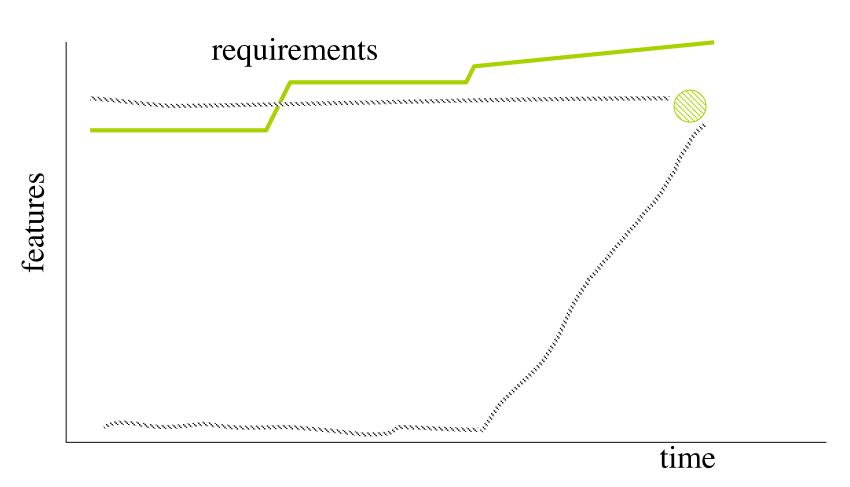




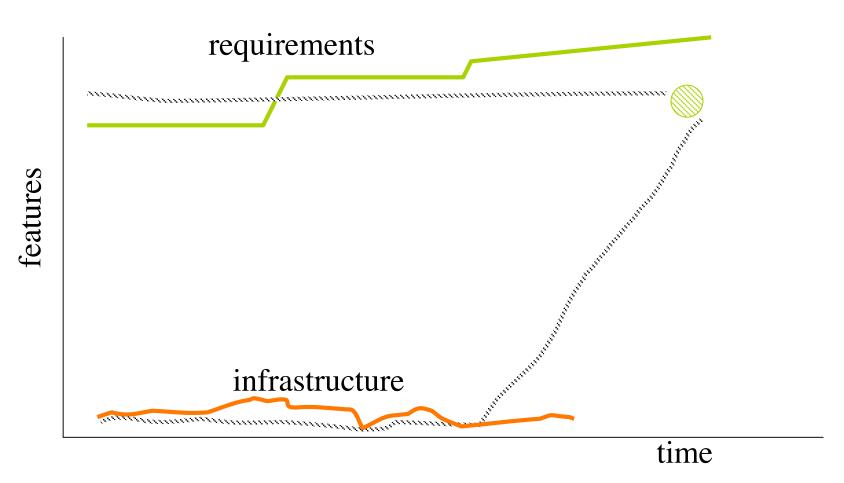




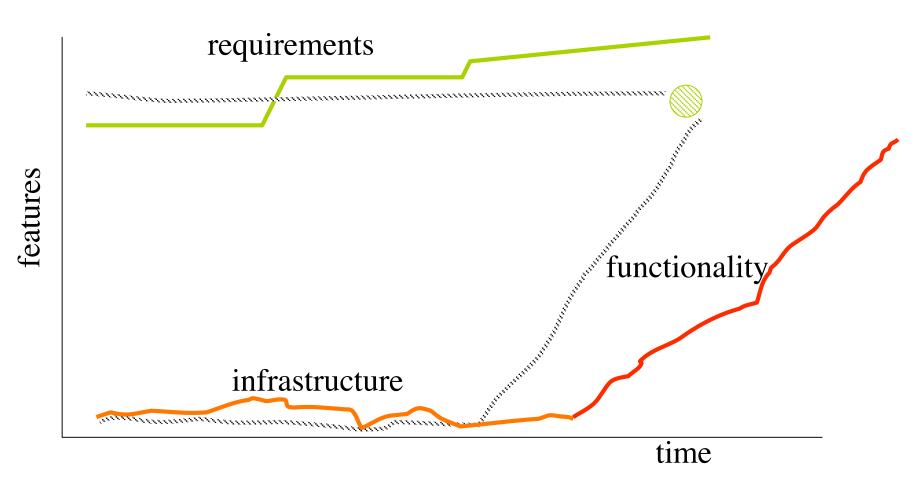




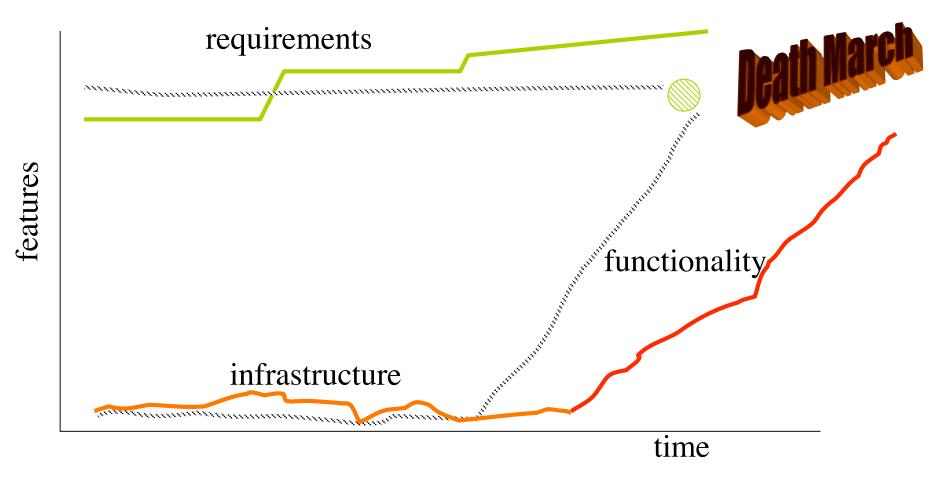














Agile Alternative

- Learn enough to start
- Express problem in features
- Maintain working system, fully tested, ready to ship
- Deliver features consistently
- Evolve the design as you learn



Extreme Programming?

2am, marathon, Cheetos, hacking, greasy, undocumented, brilliant, tests?, mysterious, Jolt Cola, protective, ad-hoc, brittle, cubicle, fear change, cowboy, overly elegant, code ego, real soon now, stress difficult to talk to



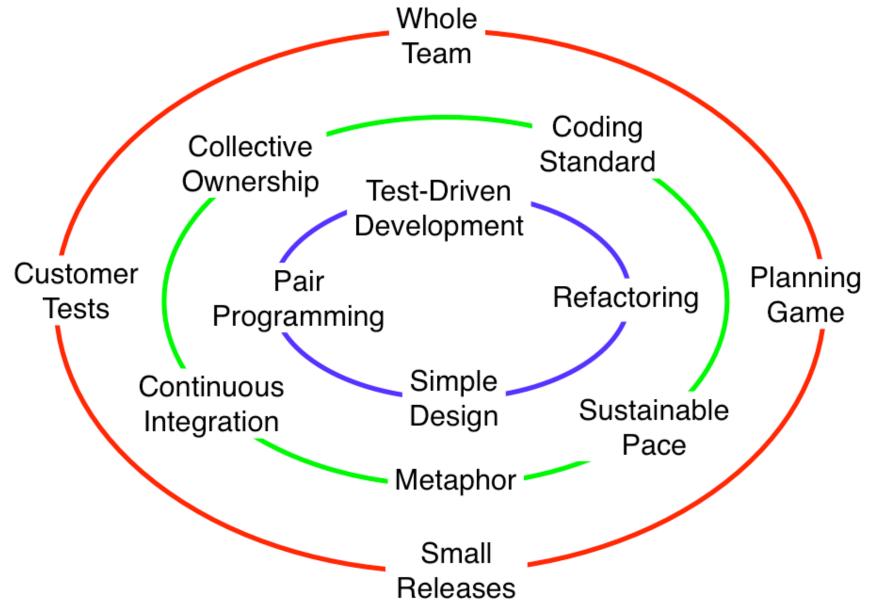
Extreme Programming!

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8-5, teamwork, code reviews, communication, coding standards, snacks, communal code tests, tests, tests, maintainable, documented predictable, copes with change



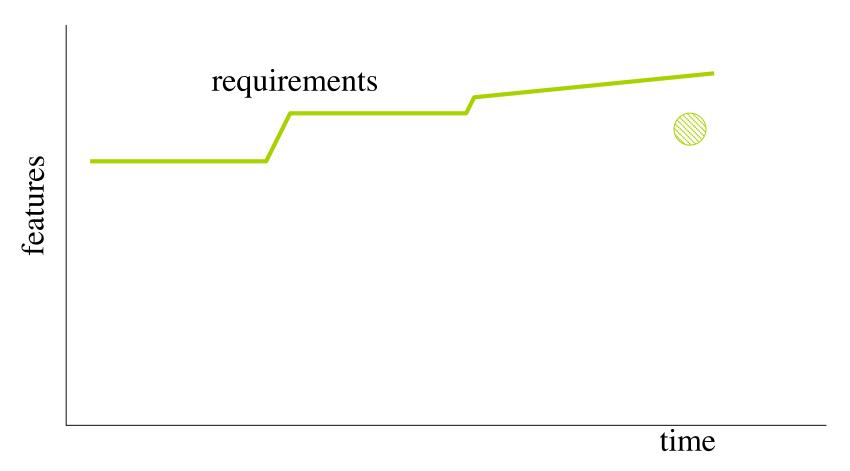
Ron Jeffries, XProgramming.com



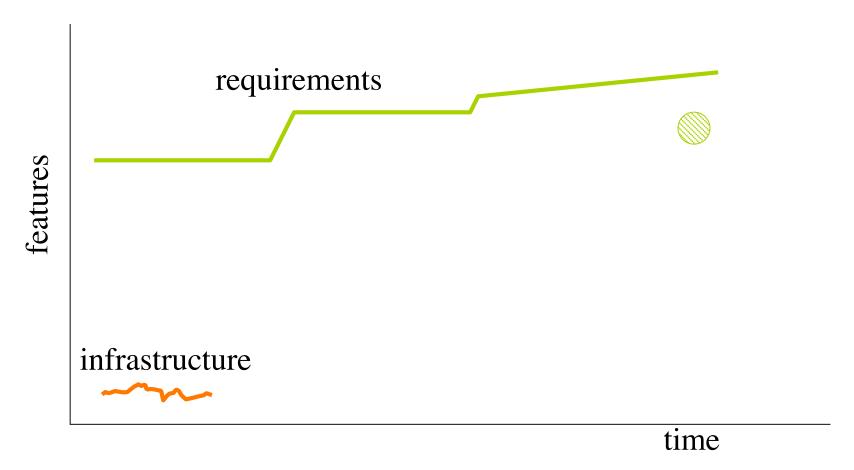


time

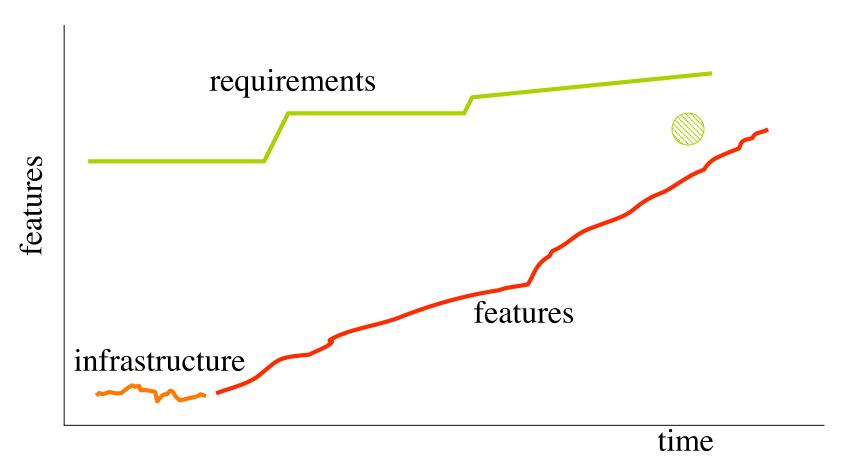




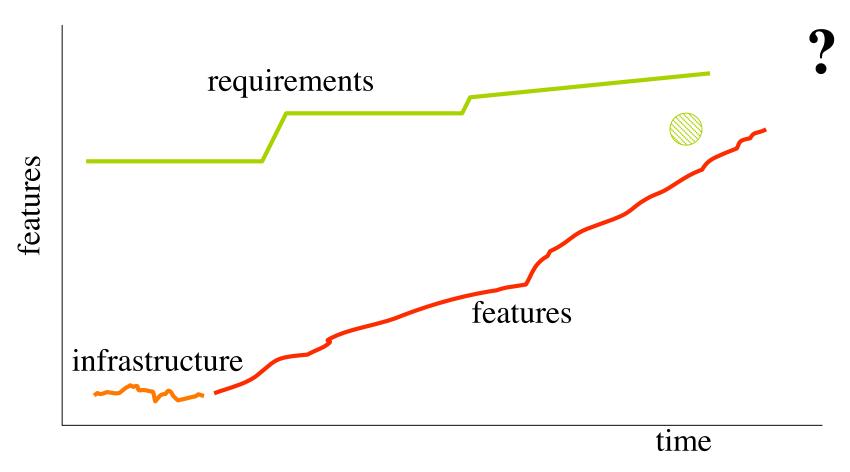














Data-driven Projects

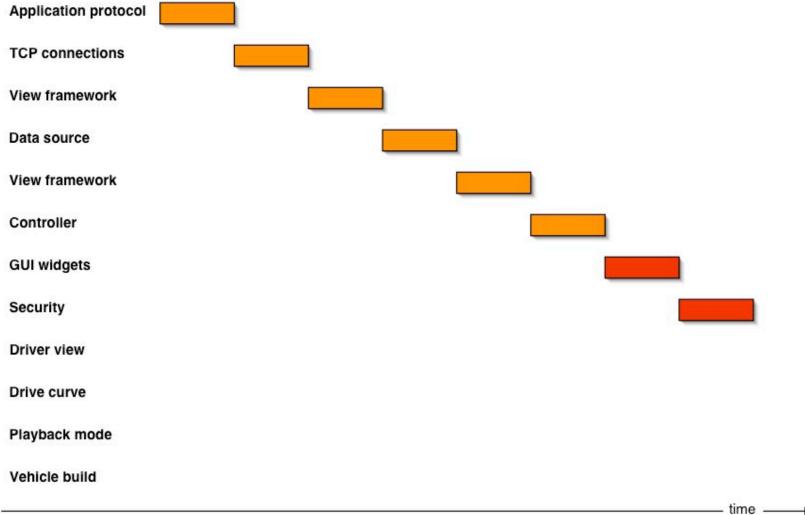
How do project managers know the state of a project?

How can they predict delivery date?

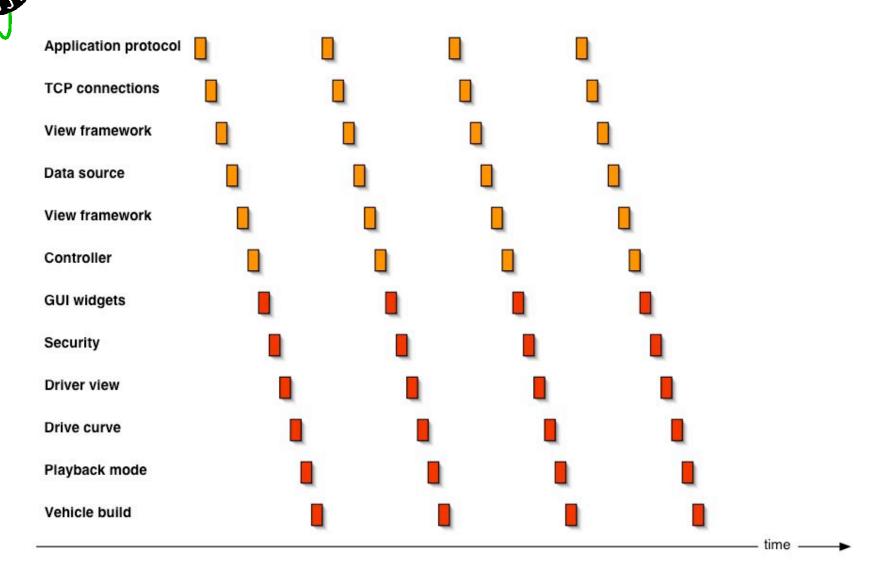
How well does a project cope with change?



Infrastructure first

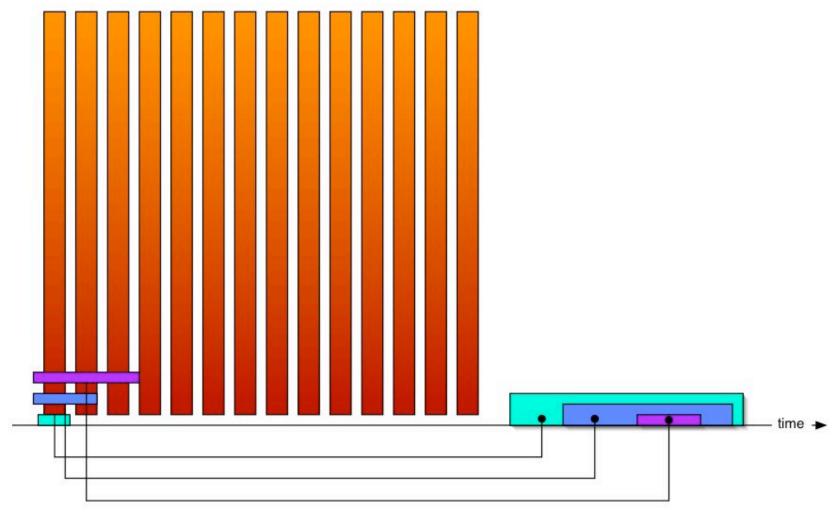


Features first

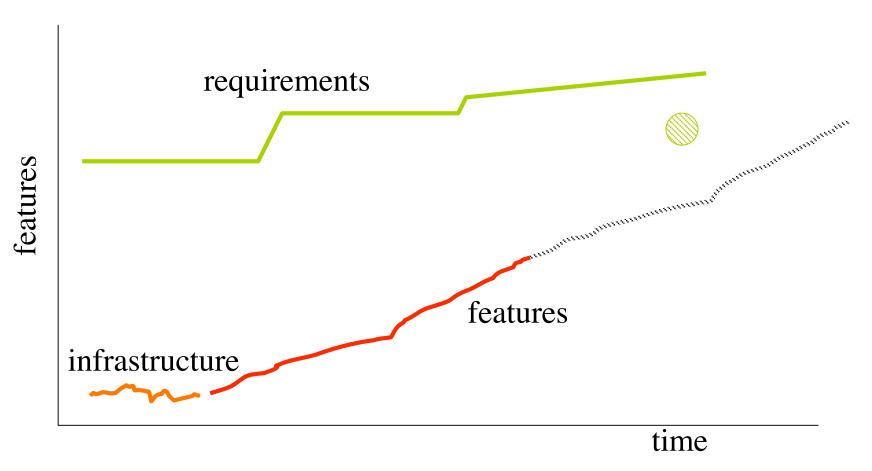




Measure and Predict



Data-driven project management





Can this possibly work?

- Resisting the lure of infrastructure
- Continuously working system
- Frequent integration
- Refactoring
- Test driven development
- Build and test automation