Retrospectives

MOVING FROM A SUBJECTIVE TO AN OBJECTIVE WORLD

A Bit About Myself

- Prateek Singh
- Post Technical (Recovering Developer)
- Crossed over to the dark side in 2007
- Scrum Master, Agile Team Lead, Agile Coach
- XP/Scrum/Kanban
- Cricket Enthusiast & Dog Lover
- Twitter - @singhpr

Traditionally…

- What went well?
- What went wrong?
- What can we do better – Action Items?
- Great model in good to ideal conditions.

Problems…

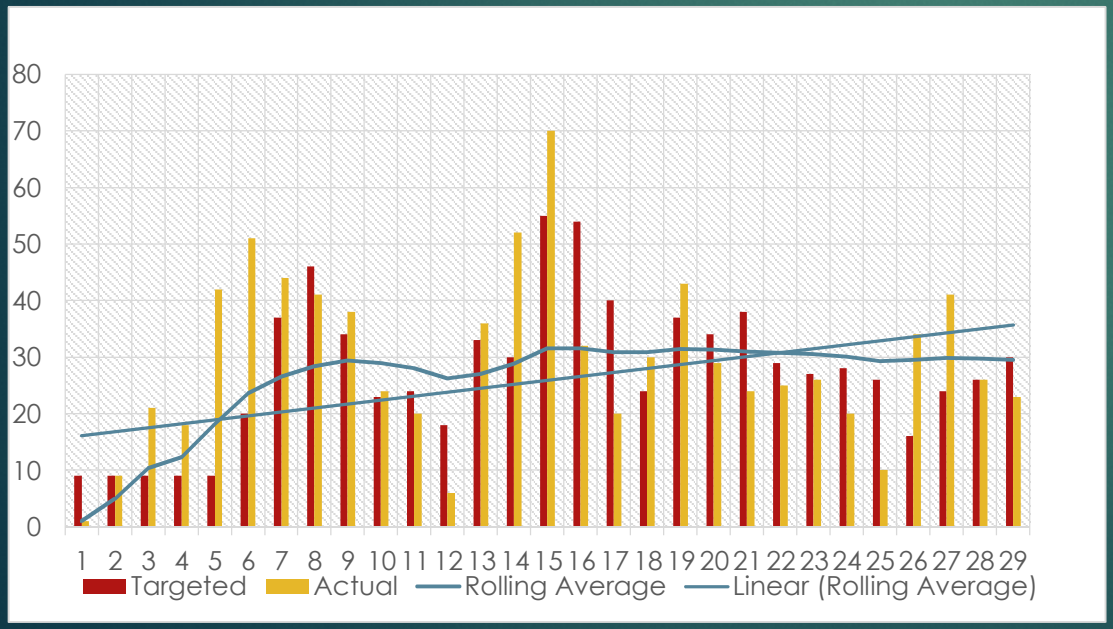
- Lack of Participation
- Rose coloured glasses
- Negative Nellys
- Kindergarten syndrome
- Lack of measurable outcomes/impacts
- Wasted coaching opportunity

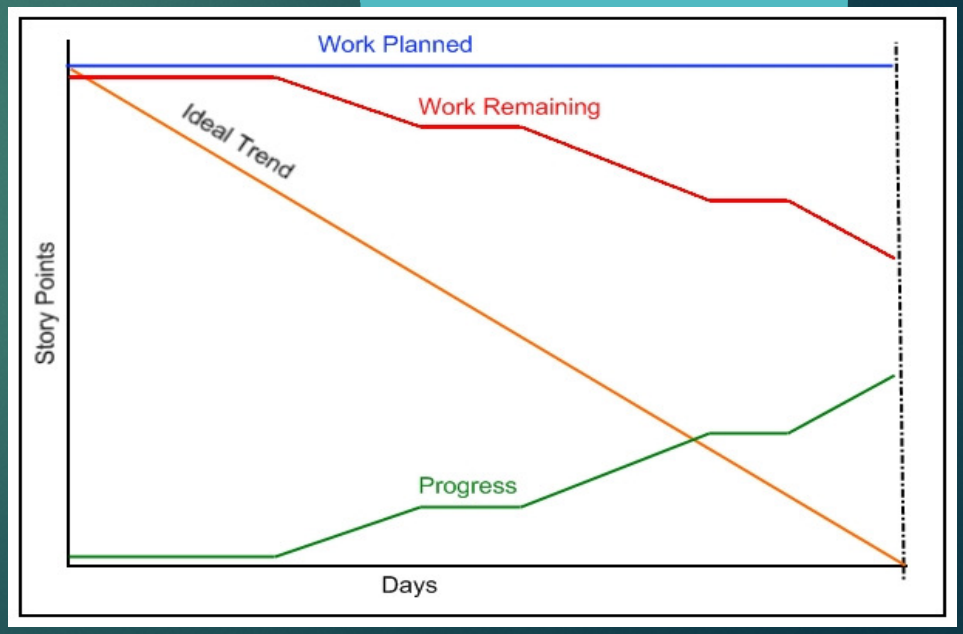
A New Voice In The Room

- Your Team's Data
- True picture of your team's process and productivity
- A quantitative perspective on what happened
- How have things changed since the last time?

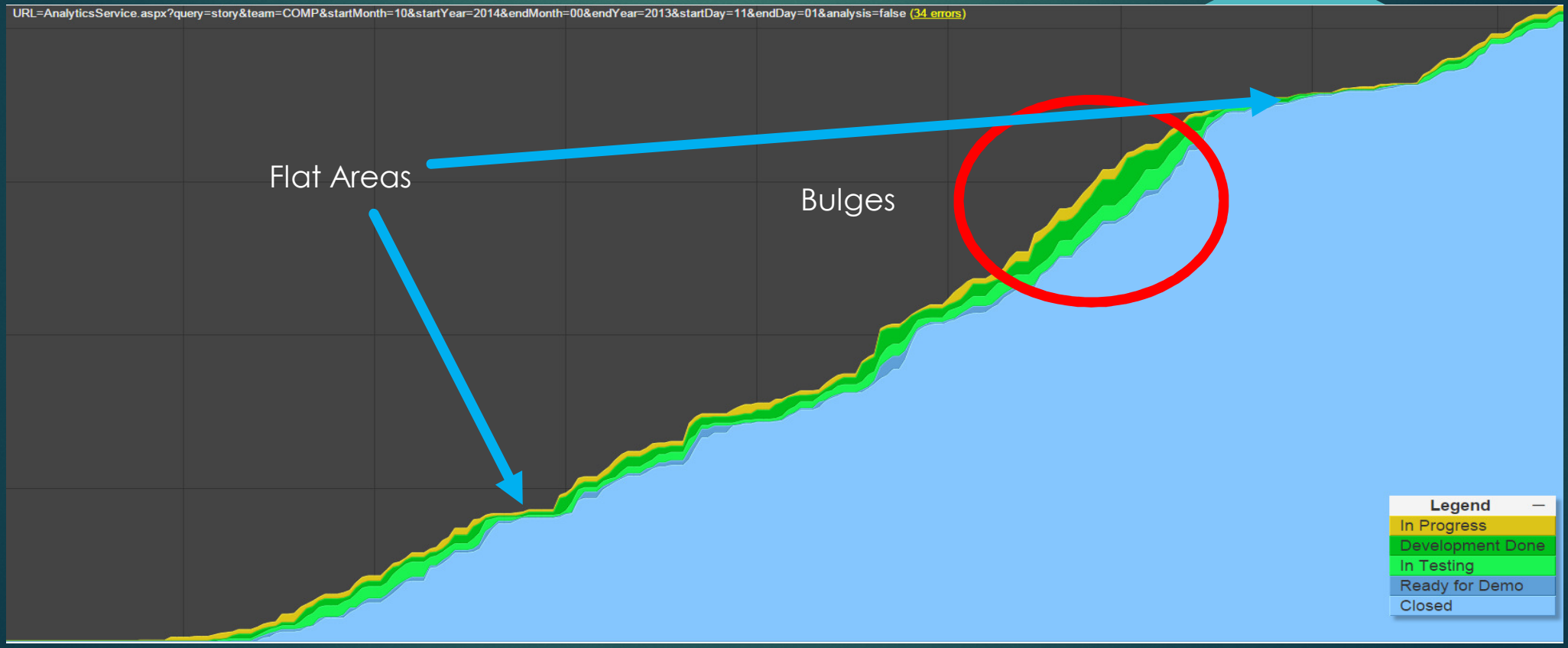
Traditional Tools/Metrics

- Velocity Charts
- Burndown/Burnup charts

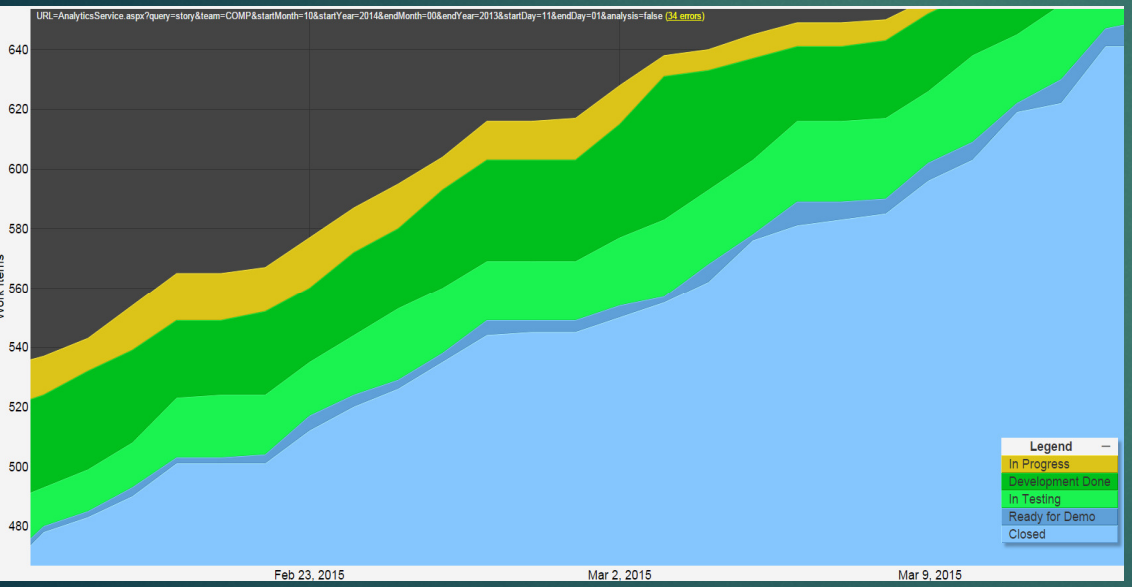


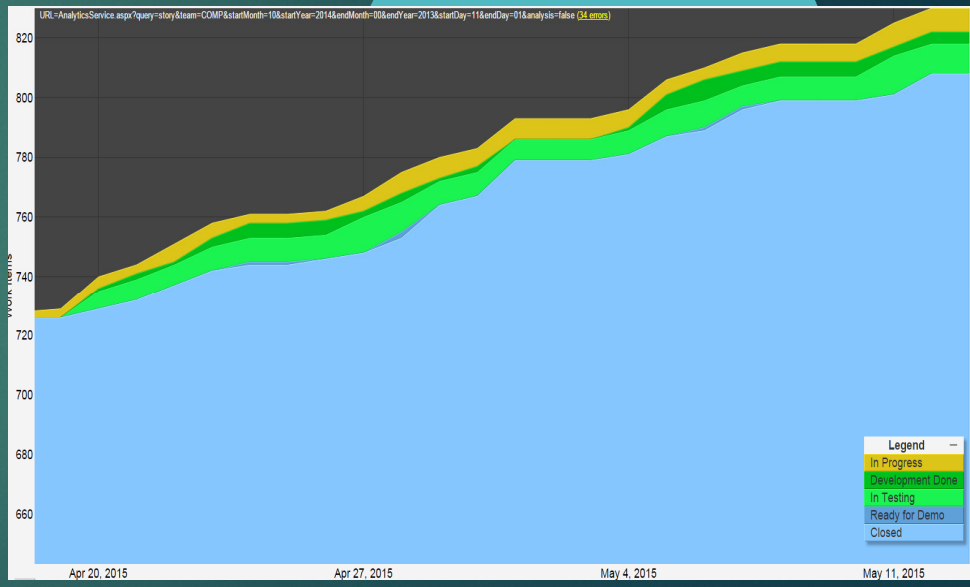


More Tools – Cumulative Flow Diagrams

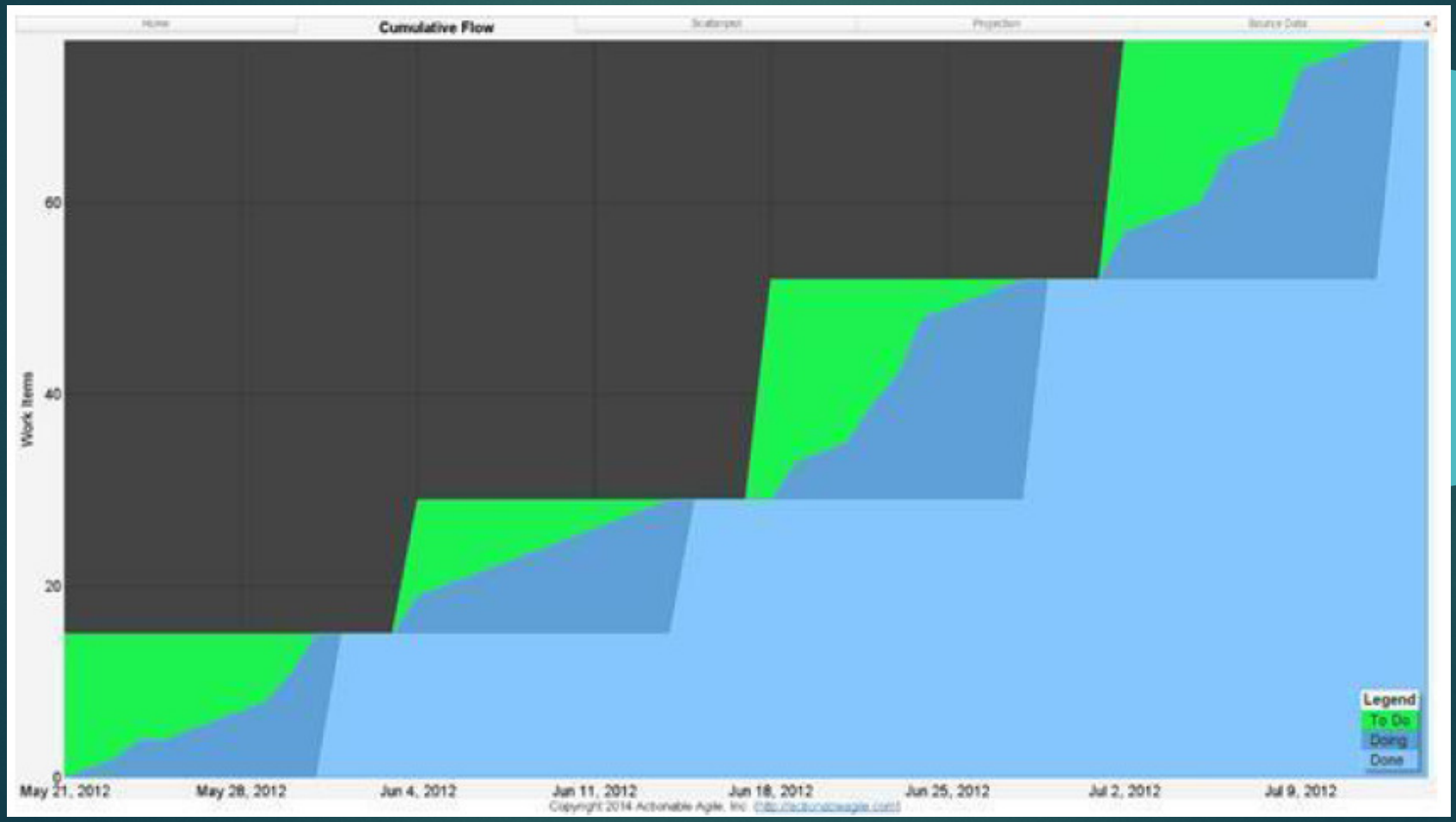


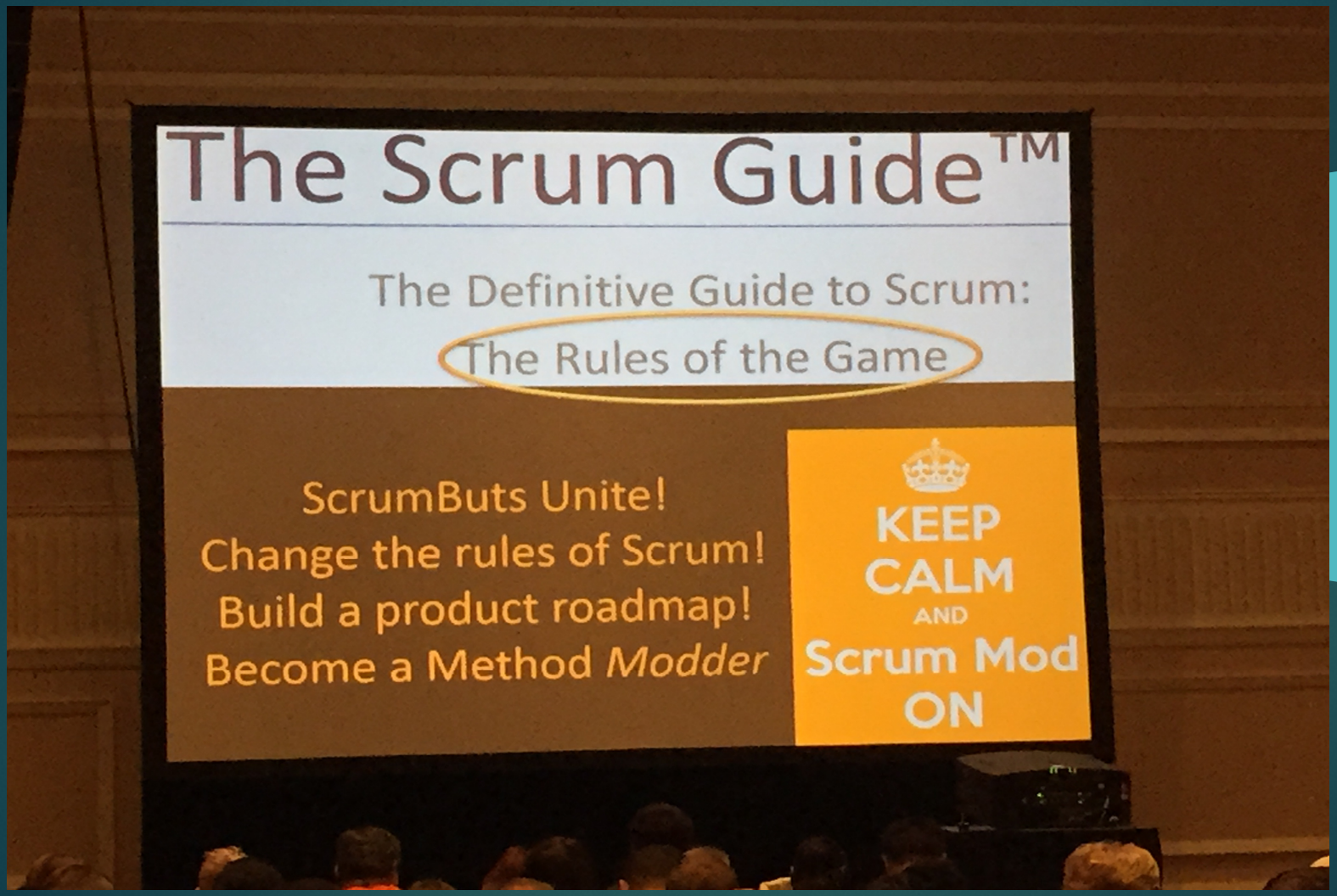
Driving Results



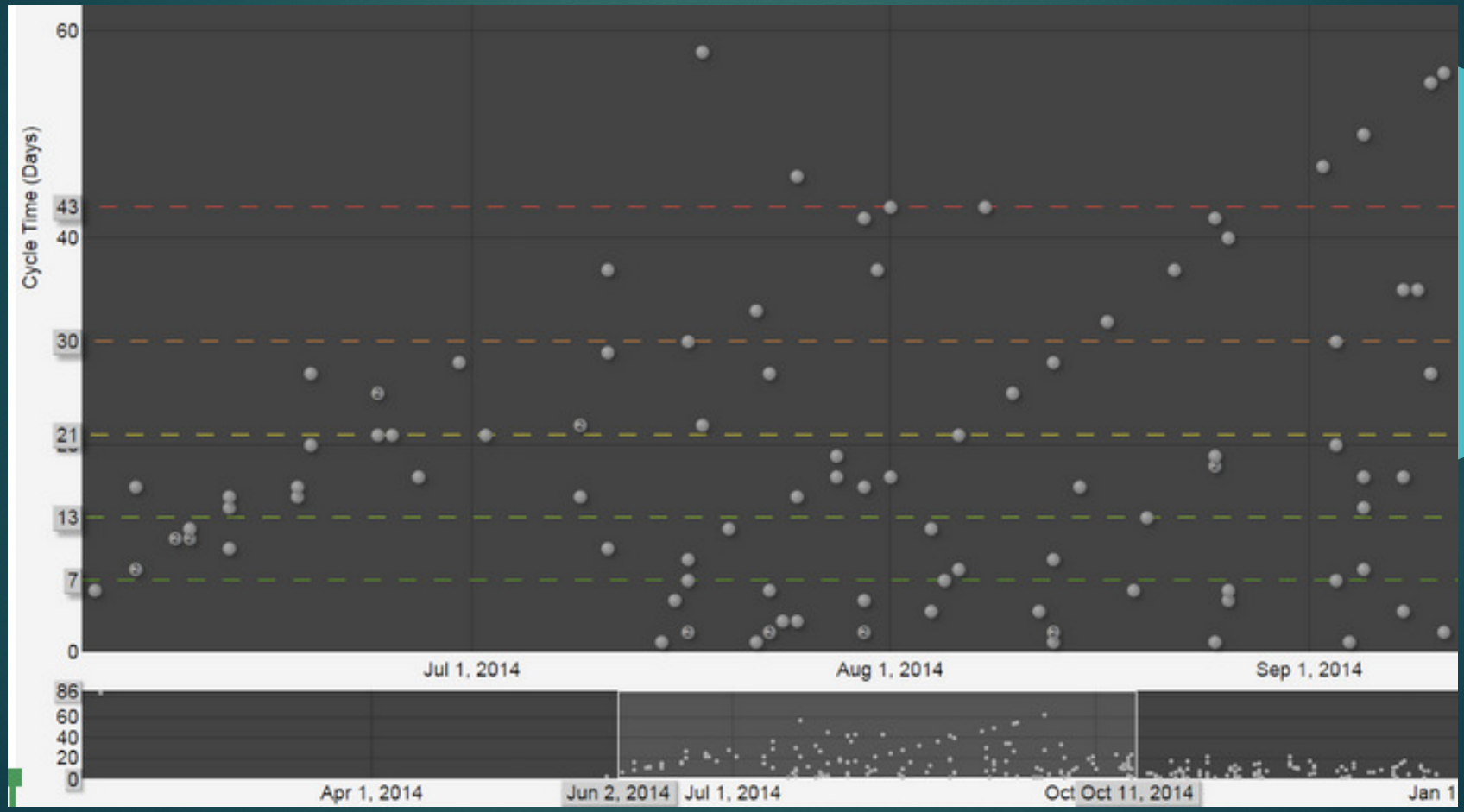


CFD For an Ideal Scrum Team

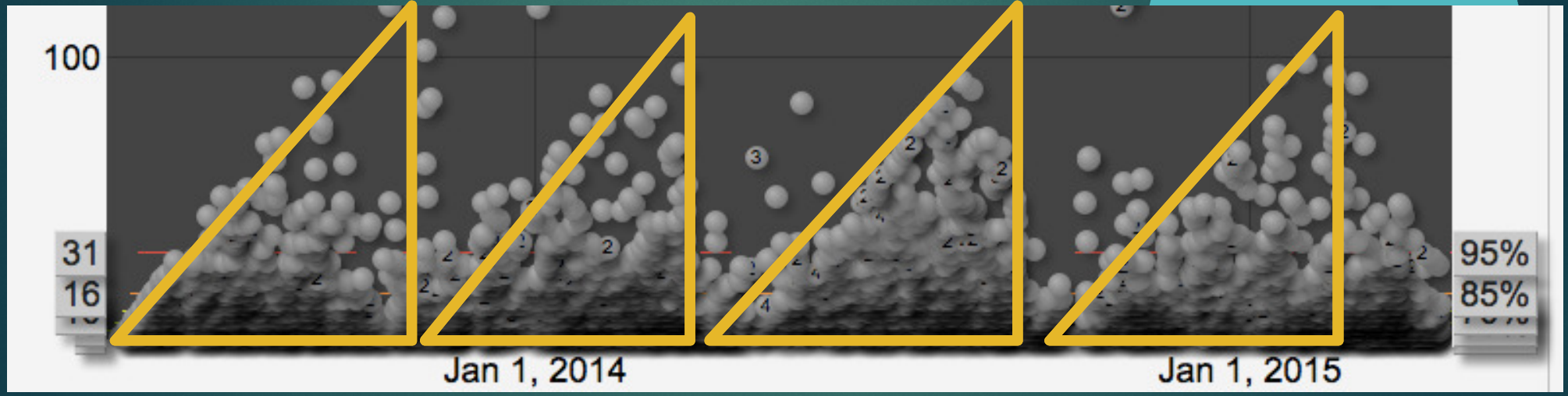



The Scrum Guide™
The Definitive Guide to Scrum:
The Rules of the Game
ScrumButs Unite!
Change the rules of Scrum!
Build a product roadmap!
Become a Method *Modder*
KEEP
CALM
AND
Scrum Mod
ON

More Tools - Scatterplots



Scatterplots - Continued



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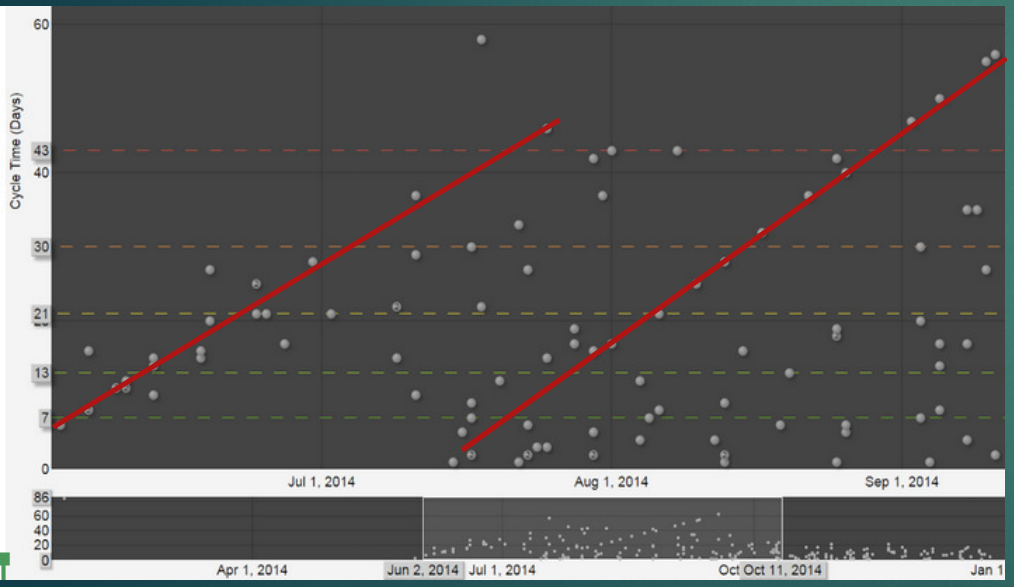
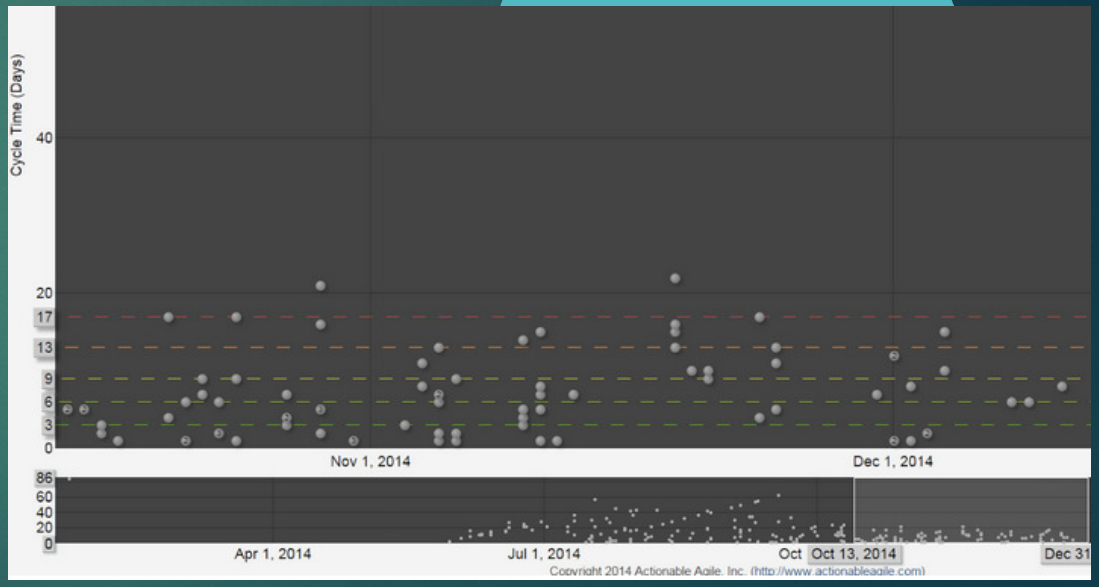
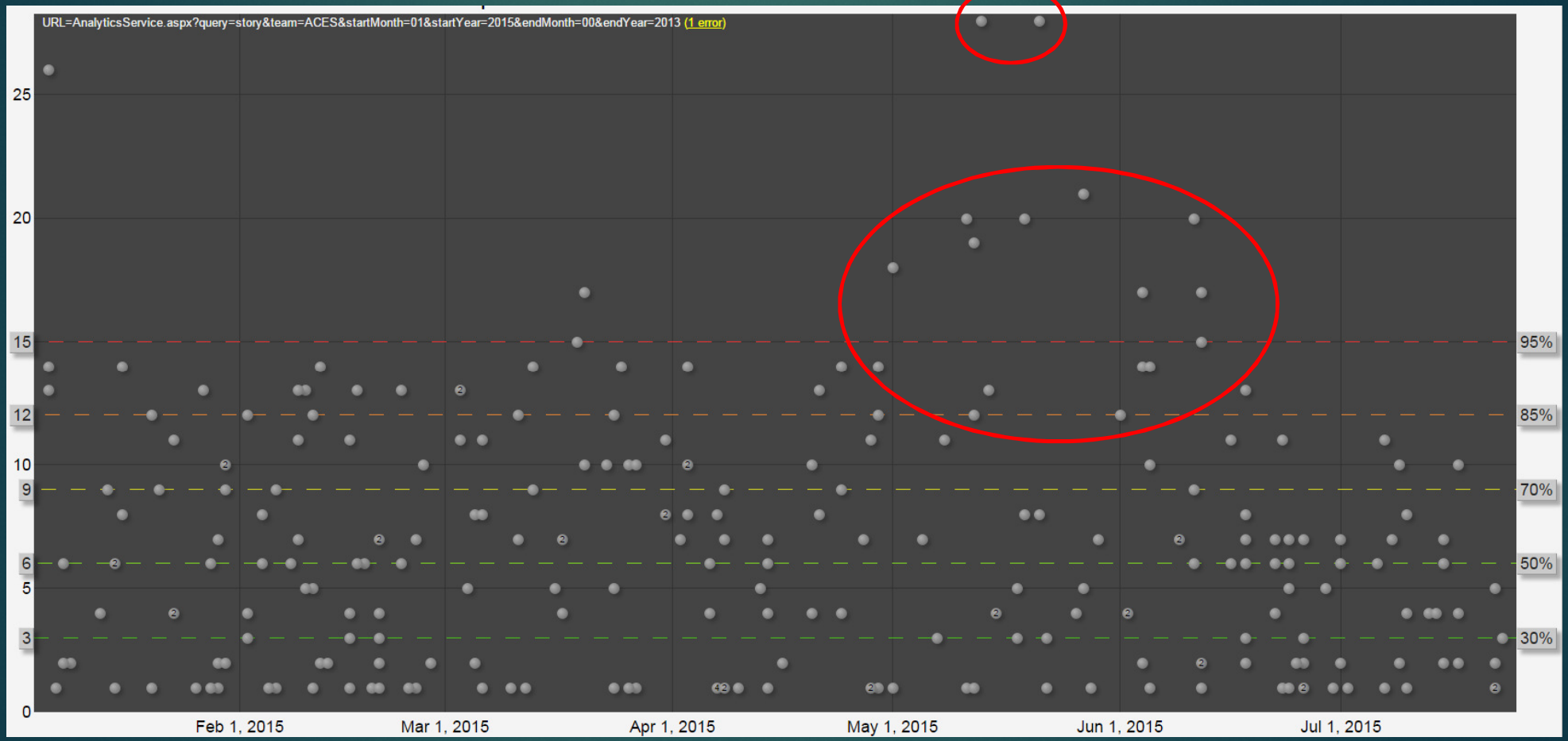




Another Example



More Than Graphs

Year 2014

	Stories		Points	Average Days						
				InProgress	Ready for QA	QA	Ready for Aceptance	Aceptance	Holding	**Total Days**
Total Closed	157	Total Closed	182	2.82	0.57	1.34	0.53	0.04	0.55	**5.85**
0 Points	9									
Half Point	86	Half Point	43	0.95	0.48	0.59	0.47	0.02	0.35	**2.86**
1 Points	25	1 Points	25	2.60	0.56	1.40	0.36	0.04	0.44	**5.40**
2 Points	12	2 Points	24	5.50	0.42	2.00	0.33	0.00	0.42	**8.67**
3 Points	19	3 Points	57	8.00	1.21	4.47	1.32	0.05	1.95	**17.00**
5 Points	5	5 Points	25	9.20	0.40	2.60	0.20	0.00	0.60	**13.00**
8 Points	1	8 Points	8	25.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**27.00**
12 Points	0	12 Points	0							

Follow Up

- Note Identified issues/behaviours
- Identify action items that avoid repeat issues and encourage good behaviours
- Look at the data next retro to see if the change(s) had the desired effect

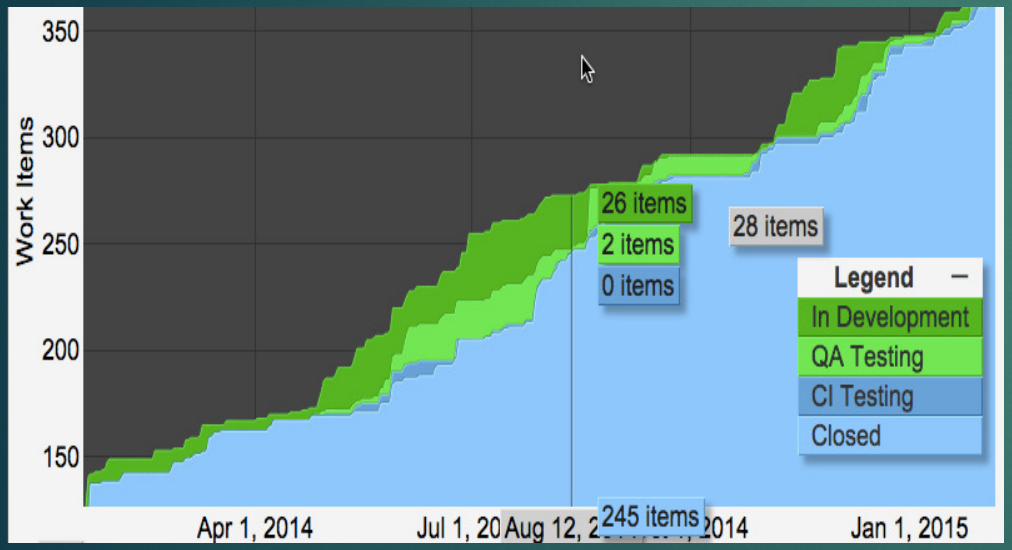
Advantages Over Subjective

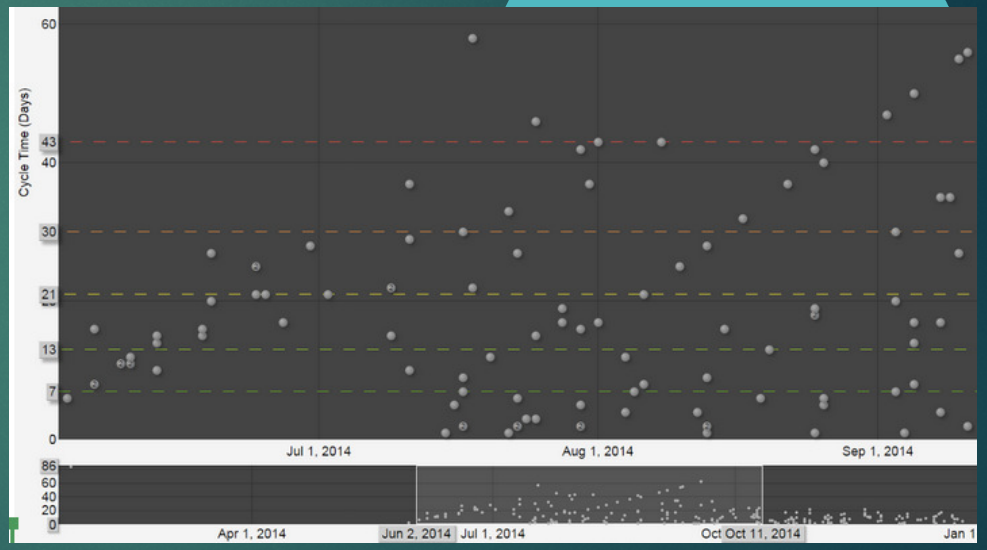
- Appeal to the analytical(blue) brain
- Numbers make more sense to developers
- Measurable/visible targets
- Real issues effecting the team on a story by story basis identified

Is It Enough?

- Probably not
- Teams have started mixing the two approaches
- Subjective retrospectives allow for more human element
- Overarching issues/recommendations might get lost in detailed data analysis
- Start with your data – move to subjective

Actionable Agile by Dan Vacanti





https://www.actionableagile.com/

Questions?

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