

Topic: Measuring Agile?

Convener: Rachel

Attendees: Eric Lefine, Yves, Bernard, Robert Y, Ralph, Robert, Zanny, Erik, Jamie Doherty, Paulus,

Notes: André

We'd like:

(eric) concrete data to show "something sometimes works"

(yves) to measure what people are doing for performance
how it impacts extrinsic motivation or intrinsic motivation

(rodd) assessment to focus on where coaching is needed

(robert) historical data -> future projections

Rachel: uses survey questions, extracted from engineering recommendations

ex: "how good are we at CI?"

then, draw a bivisual chart (radar)



this could work with broader questions ("are we happy?") especially for trend ~~tracking~~ analysis from sprints to sprints

BUT, value is a measure of effectiveness while Agility is how well we respond to change

- does it rely on quality?
- plus, it takes time to grow an effective Agile Team

(Bernard) how much is your application serving the business?
 can we tell where we are wasting time/resources?

Poppendieck: measure cycle time to live
 (short cycle time allow change of directions)

puzzle: go live every sprint to end users?

level of measurement: . the whole pipeline
 . or, the team
 lean says: optimize the whole

Slack (DeMarco): total efficiency = no flexibility

how quickly do you react?

... how quickly can your customer change their mind?

do you really need to frequently change your process?
 maybe stability has value ...

(Benny) measure results, not Agile!

↳ in term of value for customer

Session (continued):

Paulus: measuring value comes later, so there is a delay

Jamie: measure secondary effects

many causes → value

Bernard: value is difficult to measure

Rachel: and, as external consultant, you might not have access to that data

Jamie: assesses team by instinct / intuition

For large companies (maybe small as well?) standard processes help moving people between projects

Dolph: two sides to measure: practices? people?

Robert Y: biophotons - emit light when people are happy
→ there are devices that measure that

Rachel: biometrics are being studied for BT call centers

Jamie: gut feeling is still better

→ don't reduce to number

Paulus: DSST readiness assessment risk factors

Evidence: the Standish report is much quoted

Bernard: does this relate to MBTI? personality types

James & Rachel: intuitive types need to combine data oriented people

Eric: measures connect to selling Agile

- especially when there is no crisis!

but maybe we should give up and just look for (success) stories or case stories ... not necessarily scientific

Jamie: Bob Dylan says "you don't need a weatherman to tell you where the wind blows"

Session (continued)